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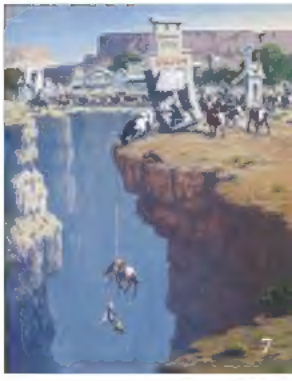

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OPENING SHOT

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The Hat-Crazy Cavalry

Up through the official U.S. Army adoption in 1872, Old West cavalrymen wore blue kepi caps, similar to those worn during the Civil War. Yet the kepi was unpopular because it provided minimal sun protection and wouldn't stay on your head. Some switched to German-style "Kaiser" helmets and then pushed the styles even further, as shown in this 1891 photo of 7th Cavalry officers, by John C. Grabill: kepis are featured with cowboy hats and one lone muskrat cap, a hat style more popular in colder climates.

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TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

True West captures the spirit of the West with authenticity, personality and humor by providing a necessary link from our history to our present.

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November 2017 Online and Social Media Content

Oliver Lee, also known as "Dad Lee," is probably the most controversial of all the New Mexico Territory cowboys. The prime suspect in the killing of Albert Jennings Fountain (Lee had the motive and was in the area), Lee went on to become a large cattle ranch owner. Find this and more historical photography on our "Gunslingers" board.

– COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

Go behind the scenes of True West with Bob Boze Bell to see his sketch, *Don't Touch My Hat*, and more of the executive editor's Daily Whipouts (Search for "August 24, 2017").

Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com

Join the Conversation

"Curly Bill was a truly colorful cowboy. Apparently he enjoyed a good church social and watching folks dance to a lively tune. He only made a few mistakes. The last two were the troublesome ones. He stayed in Arizona a day too long and the second being that he pushed Wyatt Earp a foot too far."

–Kim Winthrop Hoffman, San Francisco, California

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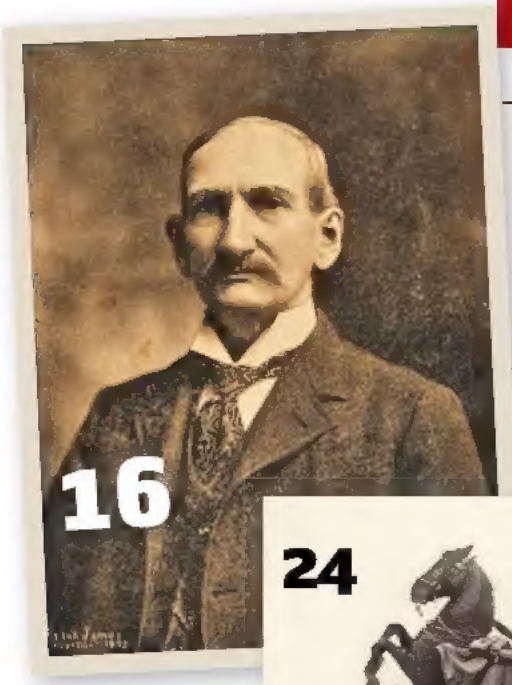

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The glorified outlaw, and why he shed his criminal skin after the death of his younger, and more famous, brother.

—By Meghan Saar

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Women riding aside leads to dangerous (and ridiculous) saddle invention.

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A survival guide for city folks who may not know the hat rules.

—By Bob Boze Bell

66 LOCKED AND LOADED

Sharing tales that range from six-guns to cinema, publishers of Western history and fiction aimed high and hit the bull's-eye in 2017.

—By Stuart Rosebrook

78 10 TREASURED FIREARMS

If you could keep just 10 of your guns, which ones would make the cut? *True West's* firearms editor shares the 10 firearms he treasures.

—By Phil Spangenberger

Sam Shepard as Frank James in *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*, courtesy Warner Bros.; Cover design by Dan Harshberger

MUSING ON MUSEUMS

In your "Top 10 Western Museums" coverage [September 2017], you missed the broadest and best collection. Phil Anschutz's collection at the American Museum of Western Art in Denver covers all the credible artists from the beginning of Western art, including early American Indian paintings on buffalo skins, right on to today's artists. His collection deserves an article by itself since it is so much a broader selection than the art museums in Cody, Great Falls, Fort Worth, Tulsa and Oklahoma City. It is almost unknown even in Denver.

Charles Rudolph
Denver, Colorado

Some museums that should have made your top 10 list: Museum of the Horse Soldier in Tucson, Arizona, featuring uniforms, equipment and weapons so you can see what was in use during any period; Steamboat Arabia in Kansas City, Missouri, offering a capsule of an age and should not be missed under any circumstances; Museum of the Mountain Man in Pinedale, Wyoming, does an excellent job of telling the story of fur trappers; Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff presents the cultures of that region as Tubac Presidio Park in Tubac does for its area. I'm glad you included the Heard Museum, though it's a lot more than art and Frida Kahlo.

Doug Hocking
Sierra Vista, Arizona

HONORIFIC FOR BOOTHE

When I got my September issue, I liked the "Well...bye" quote from "Curly Bill" Brocius in 1993's *Tombstone*. That line has always been up there, with "I'm your huckleberry" and "You're a daisy if you do."

Not until I turned to page 70 did I learn that Powers Boothe had passed away. That revelation made the cover oh so poignant...and honorific for Boothe. Now each time I look at that cover, my eyes glisten at our loss.

Curly Bill said something like, "Lord have mercy! I don't want to think about what's gonna happen when [Johnny] Ringo's runnin' this outfit!" Guess we'll find out, now that we don't have Boothe to shoot at the moon.

Michael C. Westlund
Clarkdale, Arizona

CALLING CASTING!

Just read Paul Andrew Hutton's article on Sarah "Great Western" Bowman [September 2017]. How did I miss knowing about her? Yes, there needs to be a movie about her, and I have the perfect person for the role: Gwendoline Christie, from HBO's *Game of Thrones*. She's 6'3" and as badass as they come.

Donna Tatting
Forest Lake, Minnesota

– COURTESY HBO –

ROT GUT, SHEEP WASH, CHAIN LIGHTNING

Belly up to the bar pards and bend an elbow. Any friendly barkeep at the local cantina or saloon, some of which became legendary like the Bird Cage in Tombstone, can wet your whistle.

More often than not these homes to "saloonists", Western for saloon (itself a word said to have Southern origins) keepers, outnumbered schools and churches. There you could order up rot-gut or panther juice. Not your cup of tea? How about tequila or its big brother mescal AKA mezcal, a potent clear liquid distilled from the agave (maguey) plant that when baked also served as a source of food for some early inhabitants of the Southwest? You also might want to belt down pulque, another agave based fermented brew found in places like a pulqueria. Be careful how much you throw back or you might raise "billy hell," which is a hell of a lot of hellraising.

In fact fire water led to more than its share of violence among gun packing whites as well as among some native peoples such as the so-called Apaches where tiswin (also spelled tizwin, taken from the Spanish tesgüno), a sweet corn based liquor (not to be confused with tulapai—Apache beer) on more than one occasion was at the center of outbreaks from the reservation.

The so-called "father of Arizona," Charles Poston, supposedly penned a few lines about this potent potion:

The tiswin drink is much enjoyed, to make it,
Indian corn's employed.
They bury the corn until it sprouts.
Destroying food for drinking bouts.
They grind it in a kind of tray,
They boil it strong for one long day,
Strain off the juice in willow-sieve
and in the sun to ferment, leave.
Fermented juice is then Tuplai
on which Apache chiefs get high.

In a Día de los Muertos broadside, Calavera Tapatia, circa 1913, a skeleton touts the bravery of skeletons drinking tequila from the agave liquor's state of origin, Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico.

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BY BOB BOZE BELL

"Jesse laughs at everything—Frank at nothing at all. Jesse is light-hearted, reckless, devil-may-care—Frank sober, sedate, a dangerous man always in ambush in the midst of society."

—John Newman Edwards, November 22, 1873

Outlaw Solidarity

Frank James comes clean—with a poodle on his lap.

Frank James doesn't get much respect. Jesse gets all the glory. In an excellent eight-page feature by our own Meghan Saar, we learn some valuable insights into the senior—and deadliest—member of the James Gang: Jesse was the showman, but Frank was the badass.

Cole Younger, on his deathbed in 1916, teased that a "man on the dun horse" had killed cashier Joseph Haywood, in Northfield, Minnesota, during the gang's botched robbery attempt in 1876. Cole spent 25 years in prison for the crime, but he still wouldn't give up his friends, the James boys. Thanks to some detective work on the part of the late Jack Koblas and other historians, we now know that the man on the dun horse was Frank James. In spite of his homicidal tendencies, or maybe because of them, Frank had the wisdom and foresight to give up his outlaw ways and go straight.

Sam Shepard channeled the famous outlaw as no one else has, ever, even though he did not have much on-screen time in 2007's *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*. True, Sam was too old to play the outlaw in the events portrayed in the movie, but he still captured something wonderful, and yes, cranky, about the Missouri farm boy-turned-savage brigand. Shepard, as Frank, says to the sycophant Bob Ford, played by Casey Affleck, "Sidekick? You're giving me the willies."

The film gets better with each viewing, and part of the brilliance is Sam's Frank James. In this issue, Henry C. Parke pays homage to Sam, a man who left us too soon, in a fine recap of his impressive career.

For a behind-the-scenes look at running this magazine, check out BBB's daily blog at TWMag.com

The late, great Sam Shepard captured Frank James the best, in 2007's *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford* (above right). The other photo shows Frank in the 1900s, sitting in the backyard with his poodle. He still had those killer eyes.

– ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES EXCEPT SAM SHEPARD PHOTO COURTESY WARNER BROS. –

The Civil War trained a bunch of youngsters to be outlaws, but none were as successful as the "Class of Quantrill," with numerous star students graduating to a life of crime, including Frank and Jesse James. An older Frank would change his mind about the Confederate cause he once championed, as you'll read in Meghan Saar's article: "...I hope before I die the people of the North and South will join hands and build a monument somewhere on the Mason Dixon Line as high as the tower of Babel to the memory of the Blue and the Gray with this inscription, 'Union and Liberty, one and inseparable, now and forever.'"

TRUTH BE KNOWN

COMPILED BY ROBERT RAY

Quotes

"If you hear a voice within you saying, 'You are not a painter,' then by all means paint, boy, and that voice will be silenced, but only by working."

– Vincent van Gogh, Dutch painter

"Nothing in life is as important as you think it is when you are thinking about it."

– Daniel Kahneman, Israeli-American Nobel Prize winner in economics

"...religion and Government will both exist in greater purity the less they are mixed together...."

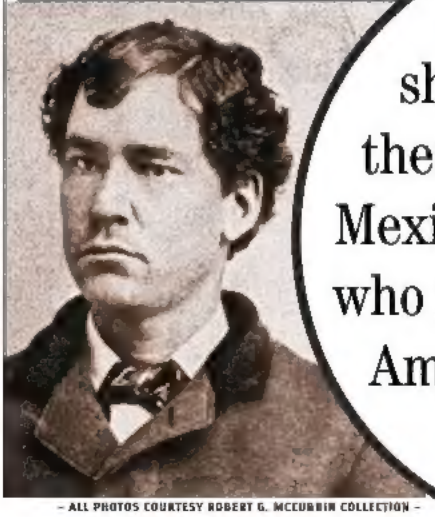
– James Madison, 4th U.S. President

"Remember that all through history, there have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they seem invincible. But in the end, they always fall. Always."

– Mahatma Gandhi, The Story of My Experiments With Truth

"My first stepfather used to say that what I didn't know would fill a book. Well, here it is."

– Tobias Wolff, American memoirist

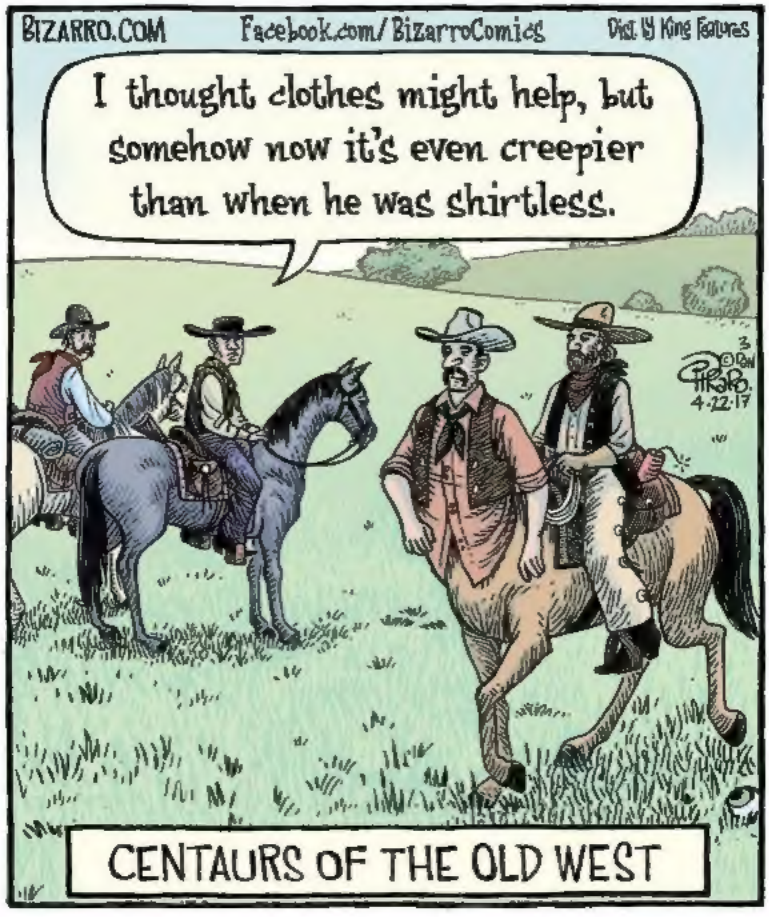


– ALL PHOTOS COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

"I will show the Texans there is at least one Mexican in the county who is not afraid of an American cowboy."

– Elfego Baca, New Mexico Territory lawman

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO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I thought clothes might help, but somehow now it's even creepier than when he was shirtless.
4-22-17
CENTAURS OF THE OLD WEST

"I'm not as fascinated by the history as I am by what creates the history."

– Sam Shepard, shown in 1999's Purgatory

– COURTESY TNT –

Old Vaquero Saying

"The wicked flee when no man pursueth, but they make better time when the sheriff is after them."

FINALLY....

The "Prince of Pistoleers" meets the "Prince of Western History" in this much anticipated new book from Bob Boze Bell—chock full of the great art, rare photos, authoritative history, and that unique dose of Boze whimsy that we have come to expect. More fun than any history book should be and a must have addition to every Western collection.

— Paul Andrew Hutton

"Bob Boze Bell is a master at recreating a time and a place. The melange holds together to form a narrative that comprises a new kind of history. Not scholarship, but almost more illuminating & immediate."

— Gary Zaboly

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TRUE WEST

BY MARK BOARDMAN

Another Trail of Tears

The effort to relocate the Seminoles was costly and deadly for both sides.

In 1835, President Andrew Jackson (inset) starkly said: "Should you...refuse to move, I have then directed the Commanding officer to remove you by force." Eight Seminole chiefs agreed to move and did, five others refused. Battles between the Seminole and the U.S. government, like the one illustrated above, broke out.

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Before the forced removal of Cherokees from their tribal lands between 1836 and 1839—the so-called "Trail of Tears"—another tribe, the Seminoles, bitterly fought relocation.

The Seminole Trail of Tears tracks to 1817, when U.S. troops invaded tribal lands in Spanish-owned Florida, looking for escaped slaves. Troops led by Gen. Andrew Jackson destroyed Seminole villages and crops. The general would be a thorn in the side of the tribe in coming years, especially after Florida became U.S. property in 1819.

The Treaty of Moultrie in 1824 established a Florida reservation for the Seminole, but many lived in their home areas instead. White settlers who wanted the Seminole land pressured the government to remove the tribe.

Settlers gained a strong supporter when Jackson was elected president in 1828. He sought to relocate the tribes to Indian Territory, a largely unoccupied area west of the Mississippi River. The move was part of Congress's Indian Removal Act in 1830.

The Seminoles initially agreed to move west, approving the Treaty of Payne's Landing in 1832, but they changed their minds. They just could not get over the idea of living on the same reservation as their longtime enemies, the Creeks. They decided to take their chances and fight for their home in Florida.

> They just could not get over the idea of living with longtime enemies.

Troops moved into Florida to enforce the treaty. By the end of 1835, fighting had broken out. Who started it is still a matter of debate. Over the next seven years, each side claimed victories in battle. But the Seminoles were outnumbered and out-armed. Supported by the Marines and Navy, U.S. troops made headway in sending Seminoles west. Government negotiators sometimes tricked Seminole leaders to meet for talks, only to take them into custody and relocate them.

Some Seminoles took refuge in the swamps and Everglades, challenging areas where whites couldn't find them. By 1843, the remaining Seminoles were told they could settle on an informal reservation in Florida. Not all moved. The government was tired of fighting and understood the impossibility of relocating all the Seminoles.

The relocation effort was costly. The U.S. spent between $30 million and $40 million during the second Seminole War, estimates John K. Mahon, author of *History of the Second Seminole War, 1835-1842*.

Of the approximately 40,000 troops who participated, nearly 1,500 died—most from disease. History does not record how many Seminoles perished during the conflict.

All that money and lives to resettle 3,824 Seminoles to Indian Territory. In November 1843, fewer than 3,000 remained on a reservation in southwest Florida. But U.S. pressure to remove the tribe continued, leading to another war in the late 1850s.

After that war, the government paid Seminoles to relocate, and hundreds did. But many others hunkered down in the swamps and marshes, refusing to leave Florida. Some descendants still live there.

A MANIAC FOR LIFE

Bill Dunn

Card-Carrying True West Maniac No. 2202

For the past thirty years I have volunteered at local museums and historical sites as an interpreter. I love history especially of the West. I can truthfully say, "I have become what I always was".

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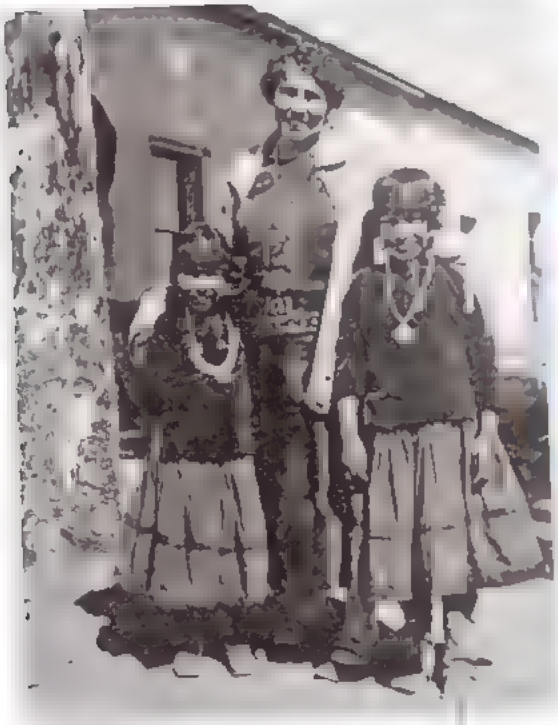
BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Arizona's Most Historic Place?

Rancho de la Osa's 300-year history boasts of Papagos, Pancho Villa and John Wayne.



On Thanksgiving day 1924, John and Louisa Wetherill entertained about 45 neighbors with a turkey dinner and dance, formally opening their winter guest ranch, located in an area the Navajos dubbed Osa (She Bear). The Wetherills were already famous for their hospitality at their home and trading post in Kayenta near the Grand Canyon. Long a recorder of Navajo history, Louisa stands between her foster Navajo daughters Fannie and Betty at Rancho de la Osa. Russell True (inset) now greets guests at the Tucson area ranch

LOUISA WETHERILL PHOTO COURTESY HARVEY LEAKE, GREAT GRANDSON OF JOHN AND LOUISA WETHERILL, RUSSELL TRUE PHOTO COURTESY RANCHO DE LA OSA

John Wayne had a favorite room. Margaret Mitchell and Zane Grey came to rejuvenate President Lyndon Johnson loved the stables. The Marshall Plan was drafted here Pancho Villa attacked the place.

And that's just the last 100 years—more than 300 years takes us back to the beginning for Rancho de la Osa, located near the Arizona-Mexico border.

So when Russell True says, "This might be the most historic place in Arizona," he isn't just bragging about the dude ranch he now owns. "We bought it to save it."

True knows guest ranches. He's lived on the White Stallion Ranch near Tucson for all but five of his 56 years and now operates it with his wife, Laurie. He's even written a book about dude ranches. When Rancho de la Osa looked like its illustrious history was ending, he couldn't turn away

This land near Sasabe, Arizona, was an established Papago village when the Spanish showed up in the early 1700s—building a mission church in 1720 that today is used for special events. The "great hacienda" was finished in 1889 by cattle baron William Sturgis, and that became the heart of the guest ranch that Navajo trading post owners John and Louisa Wetherill opened in 1924

> "I'm waiting for Mexican vaqueros to ride up...."

About 20 years ago, when the dude ranch was "a bit tired and not in very good repair," a Scottsdale couple bought it, restored it and filled rooms with Mexican antiques.

"They were spectacular at restoration," True says of Veronica and Richard Schultz. When the property went up for auction in June 2014, the Trues swooped in, partnering with Robert and Jamie Bucksbaum, who own the Majestic Dude Ranch outside Durango, Colorado.

This March, the ranch finally opened for guests. A 590-acre property with 10 buildings, Rancho de la Osa abuts the 30,000-acre Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge.

"When I'm there, I'm transported in place and time," True says. "It's been so religiously restored; I'm waiting for Mexican vaqueros to ride up, and Pancho Villa might still be out there. I don't know where else in Arizona you could go and have this experience."

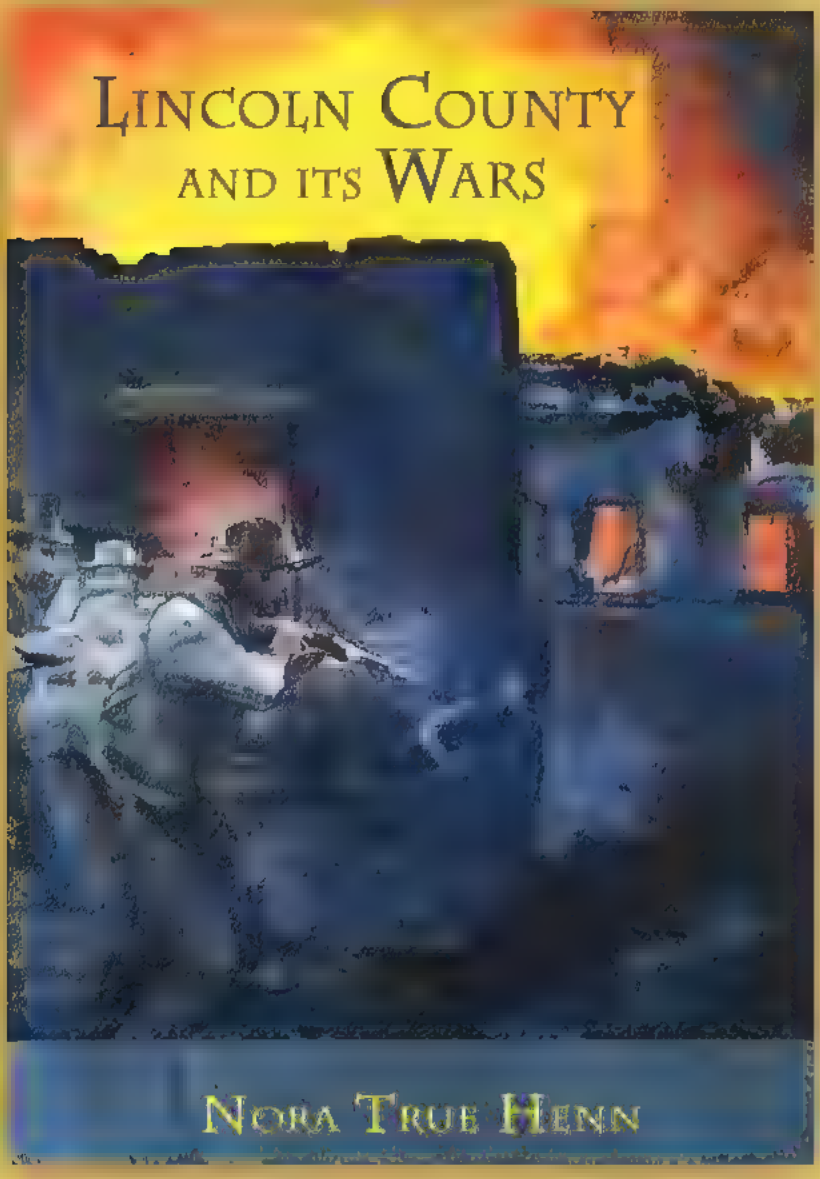
The ranch displays a cannonball Pancho Villa reportedly shot into the hacienda in 1916. Some of the 19 suites are named after famous guests: Hubert Humphrey Room, Zane Grey Retreat, William O Douglas Chamber.

True has both photographic and written records to attest to the acclaimed guests who found respite here. Yes, Margaret Mitchell stayed at the ranch, but no, she didn't write *Gone with the Wind* there. Yes, William Clayton, the "architect" of the Marshall Plan that gave economic aid to Europe after WWII, drafted the document in one of the rooms. And yes, John Wayne came often and always wanted the same suite

Rancho de la Osa is ready to write new chapters in its history ★

Jana Bommersbach has earned recognition as Arizona's Journalist of the Year and won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She cowrote the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and has written two true crime books, a children's book and the historical novel *Cattle Kate*

The Final Word On The Lincoln County War



"This is, without the slightest doubt, the definitive, the final word on the Lincoln County wars and all the men who fought them."

—***Frederick Nolan,*** *Lincoln County War Historian*

"The late, great Nora True Henn spent forty years in Lincoln, New Mexico, researching the Lincoln County War. Her archive was the envy of all. When she passed in 2011, she bequeathed her home and her extensive archive and library to the Henn-Johnson Library and Archives Foundation in Lincoln. Her unparalleled research is published here for the first time."

—***H. Marsh,*** *President, Henn-Johnson Library and Archives*, HennJohnsonArchives.org

***Lincoln County And Its Wars*, By Nora True Henn, is now available on Amazon.**

BY MEGHAN SAAR

Million-Dollar Cowboys

Collectors are focusing on a rare and unusual subject for William R. Leigh oils.

William R. Leigh's two million dollar cowboy paintings are his 1943 oil *A Close Call* (left) that sold at the Coeur d'Alene Art Auction on July 29 and his 1932 oil *Home, Sweet Home* (below), that sold at Heritage Auctions on November 5, 2011.

ALL IMAGES COURTESY COEUR D'ALENE ART AUCTION EXCEPT THE *HOME, SWEET HOME* OIL COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, NOVEMBER 5 2011

If Thomas Moran was alive today, he would be surprised to hear that his former pupil reached the million dollar auction mark through an unusual subject matter, not for his early landscapes, nor his frequent American Indian depictions. William R. Leigh's two million-dollar paintings portray... cowboys.

Leigh's path to this moment started when the 30 year old returned to the U.S. in 1896, after studying art in Munich, Germany. His 12 years taught him superb draftsmanship that art critics would later highlight as his best asset.

He got his start as an illustrator, first at *Scribner's*. In 1900, while illustrating the "Railroad" articles for *McClure's*, he must have read about the Santa Fe Railroad's sponsored art excursions to the Grand Canyon because, when Munich classmate Albert Groll invited Leigh to visit him in Laguna, New Mexico Territory, Leigh contacted William Simpson, the railroad's advertising manager, and got a free railway ticket to Laguna in exchange for a painting he would create of the canyon.

Sponsoring art excursions to the Grand Canyon started with Moran, actually, after the railroad's Ad Manager W. F. White viewed Moran's *The Grand Chasm of the Colorado*, painted on the artist's first visit to the Grand Canyon in 1873. Moran had reached the Grand Canyon by horse then, so a trip by rail was the lap of luxury when he received the invite to paint there in 1892. The railroad then expanded the program to include other artists, ranging from Joseph Henry Sharp to Oscar Berninghaus.

But even though, during 1906 and 1914, Leigh's oils were landscapes in the style of Moran's, his sketchbooks were full of the people he met—Navajos, Hopis and Zunis.

When Leigh began filling his canvases with characters, rather than landscapes, he rarely painted a white person. "Leigh's deepest bias was against civilized man, and he therefore concentrated upon unspoiled cultures where individualism remained unweakened and freedom unabridged," wrote Delmer Duane Cummins, in his 1974 biography of the artist.

Of Leigh's top 10 auction records to date, only four have Indian subjects, and two feature both cowboys and Indians. *The Narrowing Circle* depicts them in battle, and one of the million-dollar paintings, *Home, Sweet Home*, shows cowboys making music around a campfire with a Navajo friend. But most of the artist's top cowboy paintings sold at auction have portrayed lone cowboys, like the one in the 1943 oil, *A Close Call*, sold at Coeur d'Alene Art Auction, on July 26.

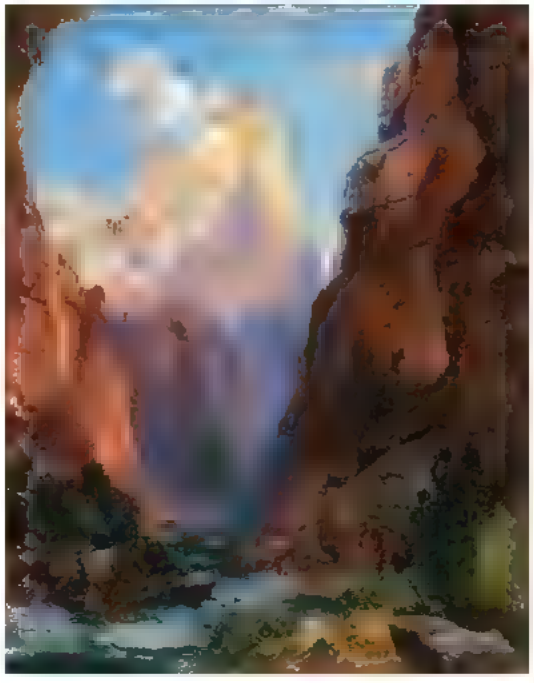
Even if art lovers are holding on to Leigh's best Indian paintings instead of putting them on the auction block, the trend still suggests collectors have been bidding the highest for Leigh's cowboy art, over the solitary Indians in nature who the artist's contemporaries usually pictured when they thought of his work. Leigh's top 20 auction records move the Indian tally to five, add a Grand Canyon landscape, introduce a new character, the gambler, and the rest are all cowboys.

Leigh knew Indians were his bread and butter, telling *The Dallas Morning News* on January 20, 1946, "The only good Indian in art is a big one."

Yet, in the 21st century, looks like the only good Leigh painting is a cowboy one.

The Coeur d'Alene Art Auction on July 29 saw some major art pieces hit the auction block. After Leigh's cowboy oil, the next highest bid went to Howard Terpning's 1998 gouache, *Whiskey Smugglers*, hammering down at $700,000

The hammer fell at $475,000 for this *Montana Winter* wildlife scene that Charles M. Russell created in 1905, which is reminiscent of the "Waiting for a Chinook" drawing that bought early recognition to Russell before he became famous as one of the West's master cowboy artists



Thomas Moran's southern Utah landscape, *The Rio Virgin*, painted in 1917, hammered down at $550,000

Another lone cowboy, portrayed in Frank Tenney Johnson's characteristic nocturne style, *Return from the Hunt*, painted in 1934 oil, bid out at $275,000

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

November 13, 2017
American Indian Art
Heritage Auctions (Dallas, TX)
HA.com • 877 437 4824

November 17, 2017
American History
Cowan's Auctions (Cincinnati, OH)
Cowans.com • 513 871 1670

November 20, 2017
California & Western Paintings and Sculpture
Bonhams (Los Angeles, CA)
Bonhams.com • 323 850 7500

BY MEGHAN SAAR

THE REAL FRANK JAMES

The glorified outlaw, and why he shed his criminal skin after the death of his younger, and more famous, brother.

Nobody asks, "Who is Jesse James?"

Books, movies, newspapers, dime novels have all shared his story, from the days when the bank and train robbing outlaw was still walking the frontier to today when only his spirit remains. Yet the single book written about Jesse's older brother Frank is a fake. *The Only True History of the Life of Frank James* was not "written by himself," unless you believe the author of the 1926 book, Joe Vaughn, who claimed he was the real Frank James. Ramon Frederick Adams certainly didn't approve, writing, "Much trash has been written about the James boys, but both Frank and Jesse would turn over in their graves if they knew about this one."

The closest historians get to books about Frank is the 1898 tome focused on Frank's murder trial, followed up by Gerard S. Petrone's 1998 *Judgment at Gallatin*, and books focused on the two brothers, starting with the 1987 family history about *Frank and Jesse* written by Phillip Steele and leading up to Ted P

Frank James sits with his mother, Zeralda Samuel, on the front porch of the James family farm in Kearney, Missouri, where he was raised. This photo appeared in Zerelda's personal photo album, which states the photos were taken on September 26, 1897

ALL PHOTOS WILBUR ZINK COLLECTION COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, JUNE 22 23 2013 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Yeatman's *Frank and Jesse James* in 2003. But even Steele was more attracted to Jesse's story, than Frank's, following up his book with *The Many Faces of Jesse James*. Countless books have Jesse James in the title, with no reference at all to Frank.

Hollywood did release *The Return of Frank James*, with Henry Fonda back in his role of Frank for the 1940 sequel to the *Jesse James* film that hit movie theaters the year before. Both films were notorious for their historical inaccuracies. Twentieth Century-Fox may have purchased the rights to the James brothers' lives, but the Frank James movie distortions included the Ford brothers being alive at the time of Frank's surrender (they weren't), and Frank playing a role in their deaths (he didn't).

Yet Frank was the man who brought Jesse to the dance, so to speak. Even so, people flocked to Jesse, which was obvious even during his lifetime. One of Frank and Jesse's sympathizers, John Newman Edwards, who rode out to the James family farm in Kearney, Missouri, to meet them, best captured the differences between the brothers, in his *St. Louis Dispatch* article, published on November 22, 1873.

"Jesse laughs at everything—Frank at nothing at all. Jesse is light-hearted, reckless, devil-may-care—Frank sober, sedate, a dangerous man always in ambush in the midst of society. Jesse knows there is a price upon his head and discusses the whys and wherefores of it—Frank knows it too, but it chafes him sorely and arouses all the tiger that is in his heart. Neither will be taken alive. Killed—that may be."

Edwards was prescient about Jesse, who met his untimely death when one of his own gang members, Robert Ford, turned on him, shooting the 34 year old in the back of his head, while he cleaned the dust off a picture hanging on his living room wall. But Frank was "taken alive." Later that year, on October 4, 1882, he surrendered to Missouri Gov. Thomas Crittenden. Thus began four years of legal wrangling over the outlaw's fate.

Who was the real Frank James? Let's find out.

FUEL FOR CRIMINALS

The year of Frank's birth, 1843, marked a turning point for his impoverished parents, Robert and Zerelda James. The first large wagon train to Oregon departed that spring, and Robert took advantage of a necessary tool for these journeys—rope—by farming hemp as his crop. After Alexander Franklin James was born on January 10, 1843, he and his parents moved into a three-room cabin by a creek in Clay County, which would be the James family home for the rest of their lives.

Frank James, who fought vehemently for the Confederate cause, shedding blood and stealing money, is shown here at 49, after he saw the wrong in his bitter fight against the Union. He told Oklahoma's *The Fletcher Sun* on April 29, 1910: "...I hope before I die the people of the North and South will join hands and build a monument somewhere on the Mason Dixon Line as high as the tower of Babel to the memory of the Blue and the Gray with this inscription, 'Union and Liberty, one and inseparable, now and forever.'"

NOTE: HARRY HOFFMAN TOOK THIS PHOTO OF FRANK JAMES IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI IN 1892. THE 1898 COPYRIGHT ON THE MOUNT LIKELY MARKS THE DATE FOR THIS PARTICULAR PRINT

Robert James is shown on horseback while serving our country in 1898 and 1899 during the Spanish American War. Frank admitted to the Fletcher Son, for its April 29, 1910, edition, that his son fought "for the flag I once hated," and that Frank now viewed the United States as the "greatest country on Earth."

WILBUR ZINK COLLECTION COURTESY ROY YOUNG

Frank's brother, Jesse, was born on September 5, 1847, followed by Susan Lavenia, on November 25, 1849. The next year, their father died of cholera while prospecting for gold and preaching to miners in California. Zerelda remarried twice, first to Benjamin Simms in 1852 and then to Dr. Reuben Samuel in 1855. With Samuel, she would give her brood four step siblings: Sarah Lousa, John Thomas, Fannie Quantrell and Archie Peyton.

Frank, who was seven or eight when his father died, clung to his papa through the words he loved, reading his father's sizable library, especially the works of William Shakespeare. Frank's propensity for quoting Shakespeare would come up in his trial in 1883, when the Rev. Jamin Machette testified that the day before an 1881 train robbery in Winston, a man named Willard (alias for Frank) and a man named Scott (alias for Jesse) ate a meal at Machette's home, and that the man named Willard had recited long passages from Shakespeare's works.

The James family were slaveholders, so when abolitionists spilled blood from Kansas into Missouri, Frank joined the Confederate cause, helping to defeat Union forces at the Battle of Wilson Creek in August 1861. Six months later, Frank was captured. He lied through his teeth that he would not take up arms against the Union, then returned home and joined William Clarke Quantrill's guerrillas. This gang of men is where Frank met bushwhacker Cole Younger.

In January 1866, Cole rode over to Kearney to visit Frank and, for the first time, met Frank's brother, Jesse, recalled Homer Croy, an author and screenwriter who grew up near the James family farm. "He's kind of poorly," Frank described Jesse to his comrade. "He picked up a couple of lung shots April 23, 1865, when he was coming into the Burns schoolhouse to surrender."

Jesse joined "Bloody Bill" Anderson's nexus of Quantrill men around 1863 or 1864. Frank would place Jesse with him at a battle near Centralia, boasting to the *St. Louis Republic* in 1900, "The only battles in the world's history to surpass Centralia are Thermopylae and the Alamo." He credited Jesse for killing the commander, 39th Missouri Infantry Maj. A.V.E. Johnson. After Jesse recovered from a severe chest wound he got while fighting in 1865, Jesse and Frank moved back to their Missouri farm.

That momentous meeting in 1866, though, is where Cole and Frank first hatched the plot to rob a bank, in the name of the Confederate cause, Croy reported, writing, "The idea was breathtaking. Everybody hated banks. They charged usury; they cheated farmers."

This was a time, remember, when the Federal Deposit did not yet insure bank funds, money stolen was lost forever.

The day before Valentine's Day, in February 1866, Cole, Frank and 10 other ex-guerrillas showed one bank in Liberty little love, reportedly stealing roughly $57,000, equal to about $890,000 today. "After things cooled down, Frank James came home and told Jesse about it. It made Jesse's tongue hang out," Croy wrote.

"JESSE KNOWS THERE IS A PRICE UPON HIS HEAD...FRANK KNOWS IT TOO, BUT IT CHAFES HIM SORELY AND AROUSES ALL THE TIGER THAT IS IN HIS HEART."

That first daylight bank robbery in post-Civil War America would fuel robbery after robbery for the James brothers until one disastrous raid, on September 7, 1876, in which the gang attempted to rob two banks at the same time, in Northfield, Minnesota. Two weeks later, following a gunfight near Madelia, gang member Charlie Pitts died. The Younger brothers—Cole, Bob and Jim—were caught and sent to prison. The James boys had already split off from the gang.

Cole would outlive Frank by one year; he had already outlived his brothers, Bob, who died in prison of tuberculosis in 1889, and Jim, who committed suicide in 1902. But Cole never implicated the James brothers in the Northfield disaster.

The year before Northfield, the James family had suffered a tragedy. The Chicago-based Pinkerton Detective Agency, hired by railroad companies, had been pursuing Frank and Jesse's gang since 1874. On January 26, 1875, a gang of Pinkerton men surrounded the James family farm and threw flaming pots inside the house, to flush out the brothers, mistakenly believing them to be

home. A flare exploded and killed eight-year-old half-brother Archie and blew off mother Zerelda's right arm.

Allan Pinkerton admitted the agency's involvement in the raid on "Castle James," as the detectives called the James family farm, writing, "I hear that the Jameses and Youngers are desperate men and that when we meet it must be the death of one or both of us.... There is no use talking, they must die."

Before the attack, Allan gave his men these instructions, "Above everything, destroy the house to the fringe of the ground.. Let the men take no risk, burn the house down."

If Frank and Jesse had been home and killed in that attack, the Pinkertons probably would have been heralded for ridding America of these criminal robbers. But killing a child and wounding a mother earned sympathy for the James family.

At the same time, when nearly six years later, Jesse was killed, a collective sigh was heard across the nation. A year after Jesse's murder, one man wrote to his brother back East, "I think the days of lawlessness & train robbing in Missouri are about over...."

The assassination of Jesse James by the coward Robert Ford, as one critically-acclaimed book-turned-movie is titled, had severed a criminal bond between brothers.

When Frank James sent this pen and ink sketch of him kissing his wife, Annie (above), through the bars of the jail where he awaited his trial, Annie added a poem written by Maggie May Danehy: "Many lips unto one speak Friendships faith repeating Lips of one alone I seek. With this gentle greeting." You can learn more about the great love they had for each other at the "Frank & Annie James: The Later Years" exhibit at the James family farm in Kearney, Missouri, through January 31, 2018.

ANNIE JAMES PHOTO COURTESY JESSE JAMES BIRTHPLACE IN KEARNEY, MISSOURI

While sitting in jail awaiting his next trial and missing his dear son, Frank James drew this bird and sent the drawing to Robert.

SEEKING PEACE

Frank officially ended his outlaw career with a dash of chivalry, presenting his gun belt to the governor with these words, "I want to hand over to you that which no living man except myself has been permitted to touch since 1861, and to say that I am your prisoner."

Why would Frank take such a risk to turn himself in to face his outstanding warrants in Missouri and Alabama?

Frank was no longer a solitary man. He was no longer the young man from 17 to 21, willing to "do desperate work or to lead a forlorn hope," one of those boys who "will go anywhere in the world you will lead them," as he told the *St. Louis Republic* on August 5, 1900. "As men grow older they grow more cautious, but at that age, they are regular daredevils."

Frank was a family man. He had married Annie Ralston in Omaha, Nebraska, on June 6, 1874, just six weeks after Jesse married his first cousin, Zerelda or Zee. Annie gave birth to their only child, a son, Robert Franklin James, on February 6, 1878. When Jesse was killed in 1881, Frank must have looked at three-year-old Robert and said, "I have to get out of this life."

The letters that Frank wrote during his prison stay as he awaited his trials convey the deep love he felt for his wife and child, and they for him. On Valentine's Day in 1884, while he sat in a jail in Huntsville, Alabama, having been acquitted of the Missouri charges, but still waiting for his trial over the Muscle Shoals payroll robbery in 1881, Frank concluded his letter to Annie with, "Kiss Rob and remember me to Ma and all the family. Hoping to hear from you soon. will say good night."

When Frank was still in Missouri, in Gallatin, awaiting his trial, on March 24, 1883, he sent a drawing of a bird to his son Robert, printing on the reverse, "God Bless My Little Man From Papa."

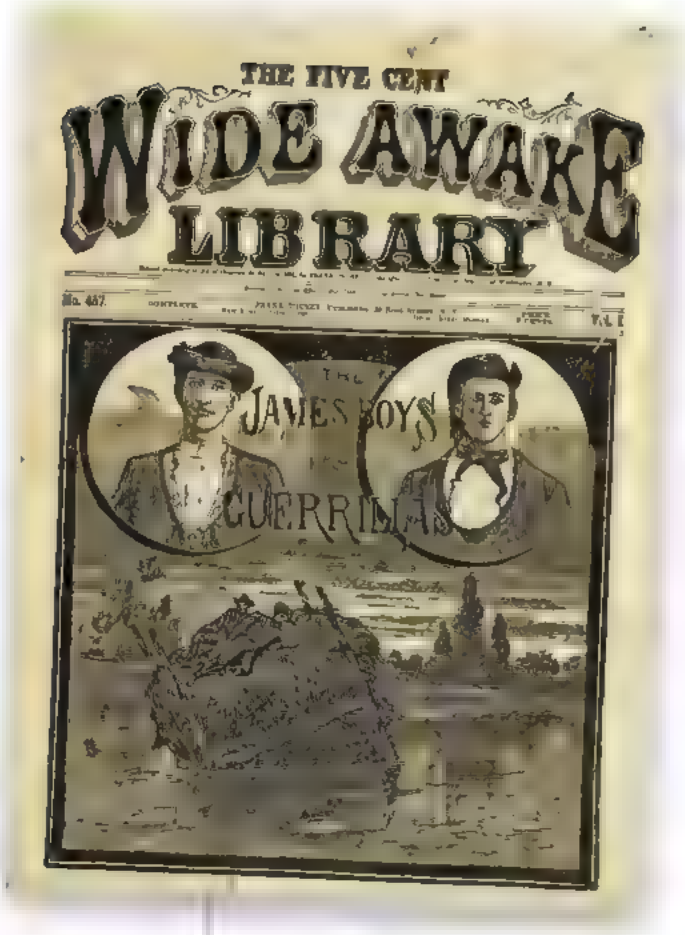
When Frank sent Annie a pen and ink sketch he made of him kissing her through the jail bars, his dear wife he so desperately missed and wished to hold once more, she added a Maggie May Danehy poem to his drawing and wrote, on the reverse side, "Still my griefs are mine."

Annie was the one who had corresponded with Missouri Gov Crittenden to feel him out over her husband Frank surrendering to him. Crittenden's response on June 2, 1882, by way of his secretary F.C Carr, stated that the governor "can take no action upon your bare suggestion," yet "desires to see you in person, and hear you freely, as to your proposals etc."

Frank surrendered on October 4, 1882, and four years later, he walked out a free man. "The issue of Frank James being allowed to go free after so public a life of crime is still hotly contested today," Marley Brant wrote in *The Outlaw Youngers*.

She added, "Edwards used every personal political connection, favor, and influence at his disposal to see that Frank James went free. Those who were selected to represent Frank, most of them without fee, later went on to become members of congress and to hold various judicial offices. A Democratic jury was permitted, and people such as Gen. JO Shelby and the maimed Zerelda James Samuel were allowed to witness, characterizing Frank as a Southern hero and Jesse James as one who was methodically hunted down and murdered by the state of Missouri for little cause other than the fact that he was a former Confederate. The surrender and terms of trial were so well planned that there was never really any doubt as to their favorable (to Frank) outcome."

When John S. Marmaduke took on the role of governor in Missouri in 1885, Edwards convinced him not to extradite



Journalists, historians and novelists have paid more attention to Jesse's story than Frank's. One notable exception was *Wide Awake Library*, which capitalized on Jesse's death by publishing a series of James Gang dime novels between 1881 and 1883, including this one featuring both brothers, "The James Boys as Guerrillas."

Frank James, dressed in a Confederate uniform (seated), posed with younger brother Jesse (in light colored hat) and guerrilla comrade Fletch Taylor in this circa 1867 photograph taken by C.C. Giers of Nashville, Tennessee

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

Frank to Minnesota for any charges that dealt with crimes committed in that state. Minnesota, of course, was home to the Northfield raid, where citizens armed themselves and courageously fought back, yet lost two of their men in the bloodshed.

Frank left behind his life of crime and found work in various jobs, as a shoe salesman, a Burlesque ticket taker (the theatre promoted, "Come get your ticket punched by the legendary Frank James"), an AT&T telegraph operator, the betting commissioner for a horse racetrack and a berry picker at a Washington ranch. He even joined up with his old comrade, Cole Younger, on a Wild West show tour through the South, and gave lectures on how crime does not pay.

Frank lived in Nashville, Tennessee, in various places in Missouri (including St. Louis during the 1890s) and in Oklahoma from 1907 to 1912, says Roy B. Young, the first vice president of the Wild West History Association. In his groundbreaking article about Frank James's Oklahoma years, published in the March 2017 issue of the *WWHA Journal*, Young revealed why Frank moved with Annie to Oklahoma, where their son Robert lived, from his home state of Missouri, sharing a speech Frank gave at the August 1904 reunion of Quantrill's men in Independence, Missouri.

"I have been in Ohio, Pennsylvania and other states we learned to hate because they gave birth to the federal troops we hated so well, and their people have treated me like a man," Frank told the war-scarred veterans. "But here in Missouri, among my own people, I am unhonored and unsung, then why should I not turn to the belief of the people who have, in my declining years, proved my friends?"

Dressed in a dark frock coat, Frank James stands in front of the James family cabin with Tom Fristt and John Samuel, stepbrother to Frank and Jesse.

Zerelda Elizabeth (Cole) James Simms Samuel, mother of notorious James brothers, sits with tourists outside the James family farm, with her right arm sleeve pinned up. Her right arm had to be amputated at the elbow after the Pinkerton raid on the James family farm in 1875 that killed her eight-year-old son Archie (inset). Also shown is one of the souvenir pebbles Frank James handed out to tourists, when he took over managing the farm after his mother's death.

ZERELDA WITH TOURISTS PHOTO COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS JUNE 13, 2006

His mother's death brought Frank back to the James family farm in Kearney, where his story had begun all those years ago. After his mother died on February 10, 1911, on her way home from visiting him in Oklahoma, Frank planned to summer in Missouri and winter in Oklahoma, which he did, until 1913, whereafter he stayed in Missouri permanently.

At the James family farm, Frank gave 25-cent tours and sold souvenir pebbles to folks who stopped by to visit the grave of Jesse James and his childhood home. A man perpetually outshone by his younger brother in the annals of history, Frank left behind his wife, Annie, and their son, Robert, dying from a stroke, at the age of 72, on February 18, 1915.

THE OUTLAW GLORIFIED

Frank had long ago shed the outlaw persona that froze his brother in the limelight. Would Jesse have done the same, if Frank had been killed all those years ago, instead of him?

Perhaps we all grow up into those crotchety old men yelling, "Get off my front lawn," and into those wretched old women who over worry about imagined terrors. In 1902, a nearly 60-year-old Frank sought a court order to prevent the play, *The James Boys in Missouri*, from being shown on stage in Kansas City, Missouri. He voiced his concern.

"The dad-binged play glorifies these outlaws and makes heroes of them.... I am told the Gilliss Theatre was packed to the doors last night, and that most of those there were boys and men. What will be the effect on these young men to see the acts of a train robber and outlaw glorified?"

Meghan Saar is the editor of *True West Magazine*. She wishes to thank Roy B. Young, Eric James and Mark Lee Gardner for their research assistance. Wilbur Zink passed on to the great beyond before he could finish his Frank James book, but you can learn more about the researcher in the magazine's profile of him, published on *TWMag.com*, "Collecting American Outlaws."

THE Scandalous SADDLE

WOMEN RIDING SIDEWAYS WAS ONCE DANGEROUS AND RIDICULOUS. SADDLE INVENTION

Buffalo Bill's Wild West sharpshooter Annie Oakley rode aside, as in this picture, performing "...horseback tricks from a sidesaddle, a contraption with a flat seat, on which the rider sat sideways, and a thick, leather covered hook, which the rider used to anchor herself by her leg to the horse's back," wrote Glenda Riley, in *The Life and Legacy of Annie Oakley*. She also took advantage of the sidesaddle, Riley added. When Oakley dangled off the side of her horse to pick up a hat off the ground, she appeared as if "she floated on the horse's back."

ALL IMAGES TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

As absurd as this may sound, the sidesaddle took hold in the 14th century to protect the virginity of a teenaged princess traveling across Europe to wed the young King of England.

Surprised? Don't feel alone. Most assume the sidesaddle was the natural outcome of fashion, demanded by the long, flowing, sometimes over-hooped skirts favored for so many centuries.

But no, protecting the royal hymen was the reason.

For some 500 years, women were told the only way a "proper lady" sat on a horse was sideways, holding on for dear life, a passenger on a 1,500-pound animal she could barely control.

The fate of that princess makes the story even more ludicrous.

A common scene in towns across the frontier West, this gentleman rides astride, with legs on each side of the stirrups, while the lady drapes both her legs over the side of her horse

Virtuous Virgins

Princess Anne of Bohemia, a predecessor of the modern Czech Republic, was the daughter of the most powerful monarch in Europe in 1382 when she left for England to wed King Richard II. To ensure her virgin marriage, ruling men instructed her to ride aside, rather than astride.

"Good Queen Anne," as she'd eventually be called, arrived sitting in a large padded chair, holding onto a pommel in front, both feet resting on a wooden plank that hung on the left side of the animal. (Both men and women mount a horse from the left.) Someone led her horse.

She wed a tall, handsome boy she came to love, but who history remembers mainly through William Shakespeare, the playwright who blamed "Richard II" for the Wars of the Roses.

Women hadn't always ridden so askew.

Although ancient Greek sculptures depict women riding aside, it was an option, not a demand. Joan of Arc didn't ride into battle in the 1400s as a damty maid. Geoffrey Chaucer depicted his "Wife of Bath" riding astride in the 1300s. Central Asian women mounted horses like their brothers did, and Amazon women were famous for both their trousers and riding astride.

But then came Anne and the fixation on "virtuous virgins." Folks like to mimic royals, so the idea of a sidesaddle spread.

By 1600, riding aside was the only way a "decent" woman could ride a horse without scorn. Most women went willingly along—except for Catherine the Great, of course, who was so powerful, she decreed her court would all ride astride.

"The reins, both of personal power and individual equestrian control, had been taken away by men who now restricted a woman's political and equestrian destinies," CuChullaine O'Reilly wrote for the Long Riders Guild Academic Foundation.

She sat so precariously, it's a wonder all rides didn't end in injury.

Sidesaddle Designs

The earliest sidesaddle design was little more than a pillow and a piece of wood that faced the woman off to the scenery on the left side of the horse. This replaced the pillion—a small padded seat where the woman rode behind a male rider. The newer saddle allowed the lady to ride alone, but still gave her no control over the animal—she sat so precariously, it's a wonder all rides didn't end in injury. Another rider held the reins and led her horse along; she could do little but cling to the pommel and hope she didn't fall off. The woman was not exactly "riding" the horse; she was just sitting on it as it moved.

In the 16th century, Catherine de' Medici is credited with inspiring a saddle that allowed the woman to face forward. In this saddle, she hooked her right leg around a pommel on the saddle and placed her left foot in a stirrup. This gave her a fighting chance to stay in the saddle and handle the reins herself. But even this saddle only allowed her to proceed slowly—any speed was dangerous.

The most famous Old West photograph of a woman riding aside is this one taken of Belle Starr, next to lawman Tyner Hughes, on May 23, 1886, three years before the notorious outlaw wife (she married Jim Reed and Sam Starr) was mysteriously shot while riding her horse home. She looked ever the Victorian lady, mounted on her tooled sidesaddle, wearing her long black velvet dress, fitted riding jacket and a Stetson decorated with an ostrich plume—then you saw her Colt .45 revolvers suspended from her cartridge belt. Her elegant, yet tough demeanor made her the perfect candidate for novelist Richard K. Fox to mold her as the frontier's "bandit queen" or "female Jesse James."

COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION

The sidesaddle we still know today was invented in the 1830s by Jules Pellier. It had a fixed pommel to support the rider's right thigh and a revolutionary second pommel for the left leg. This allowed more security and control, giving the woman the freedom to stay on top at a gallop and to jump fences.

By now, the sidesaddle was a permanent fixture for women and any suggestion to the contrary was met with harsh words. Like the *Los Angeles Times* male columnist in 1905: "The woman does not live who can throw her leg over the back of a horse without profaning the grace of femininity; or grasp with her separated knees the shoulders of her mount without violating the laws of good taste; or appear in the cross-saddle with any semblance of dignity, elegance or poise."

Even some female writers agreed. As the 20th century dawned and balked, British author Alice Hayes saw the first rumblings against a sidesaddle, denouncing these "feminine desperadoes." Although she vehemently argued women should ride sidesaddle, she did admit that the sidesaddle's impractical design placed women in harm's way.

"The fact of a lady having to ride in a side saddle, subjects her to three disadvantages: she is unable, without assistance, to mount as readily as a man, she cannot apply the pressure of the leg to the right side of the horse; and she cannot 'drop her hands' in order to pull her horse together to the same extent as he can," wrote Hayes, in her 1893 book, *The Horsewoman: A Practical Guide to Side-Saddle Riding*.

By 1900, American women were split on the issue—along geographic lines. Women in the East clung to the sidesaddle as proper and necessary, while Western women saw them as impractical and dangerous. Western women were far more likely to use a horse for farm and ranch labor than their Eastern sisters, who saw the horse as a weekend entertainment.

"Not one of us would tolerate the old-fashioned sidesaddle," said one of the record 25 women inducted into the Vaquero Riding Club, composed of expert horsemen of Spanish heritage, during the early 1900s.

Her proud statement to the *Los Angeles Times* was just the beginning.

Meet "Two-Gun" Nan Aspinwall

"Two-Gun" Nan Aspinwall began calling herself "Montana Girl" in 1906, two years before she started performing with Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Pawnee Bill's Great Far East troupe, where she became a hit.

Did the Two Bills challenge her to ride solo across the nation in 1909, to promote the troupe? No woman had ever undertaken such a ride—and of course, she wouldn't ride aside. She also wouldn't be wearing a flowing skirt, but a split skirt that some still considered scandalous.

In September 1910, "Two-Gun" Nan accepted the challenge and took off from San Francisco to New York City on a mare named Lady Ellen. She carried a letter to New York City Mayor William Jay Gaynor from San Francisco Mayor Patrick Henry McCarthy.

Her horse went through 14 pairs of horseshoes. Nan insisted on doing all the shodding herself, just as she took care of anything else her horse required.

In all, "Two-Gun" Nan and Lady Ellen traveled 4,496 miles in 180 days, arriving in New York City on July 9, 1911. One New York newspaper announced her arrival with a picture and the headline, "Snappy Western Girl Who Rode Horse Clear Across Continent."

Even on an exercise machine, women rode sidesaddle. For the lady obsessed with getting rid of saddlebags—loose flesh hanging around her hips and buttocks—yet did not have the time or the means to ride a horse every day, this saddle machine professed to offer the cure. During the Victorian era, Swedish physician Gustav Zander helped pioneer exercise machines at a time when folks still thought bloodletting was the path to good health.

Another reported, "A travel-stained woman attired in a red shirt and divided skirt and seated on a bay horse drew a crowd to City Hall yesterday afternoon."

Her historic ride was retold on radio and television during the 1940s, '50s and '60s, and she served as a technical adviser when her ride was showcased on an episode of *Death Valley Days*.

"Two-Gun" Nan died in 1964 at the age of 84, living out her last years quietly in California.

Sisters in the Saddle

In 1912, Alberta Claire made her 8,000-mile solo trip from Wyoming to Oregon, down through California, across the Arizona desert and into New York City. Along the way, she declared to anyone who'd listen that she had both the right to ride astride and the right to vote.

History does not record whether or not Claire ever met New York's Inez Milholland, though they were contemporaries. Nevertheless, these two women were sisters in the saddle.

Nobody tied politics and riding astride as did Milholland, the beautiful face of the suffrage movement.

Milholland was born into a liberal family of means in Brooklyn in 1886. She became a lawyer—turned down by Yale and Harvard because of her sex—and gave lectures throughout the nation to support women's rights. She led suffrage marches in 1911, 1912 and 1913, while astride a white horse named Gray Dawn.

While all dressed in white, Milholland appeared in her most memorable suffrage march, on March 3, 1913, on the eve of President Woodrow Wilson's inauguration. Riding Gray Dawn, the 26 year old was leading the Women Suffrage Procession of 9,000 marchers in Washington, D.C. when thugs attacked. "Women were jeered, tripped, grabbed, shoved and many heard 'indecent epithets' and 'barnyard conversation,'" the Library of Congress reports.

Milholland drove off the attackers, at least temporarily, but as police stood by—some of them jeering themselves—more than 300 women were hurt and required medical attention. Deaf and blind Helen Keller was so unnerved by the attacks that she couldn't give her speech.

Seeing these women being blooded and broken during a peaceful march turned the public's stomach. History records this as a turning point for the women's right to vote. Milholland emerged as a heroine of the movement.

While on a speaking tour of the west in Los Angeles, she collapsed and died of pernicious anemia in 1916.

Horses weren't the only beasts women rode out West, and history presents ladies on mules riding aside (as in the 1891 illustration, above left) and astride (as in the circa 1900 photograph of women riding through Yellowstone National Park, above right)

From Sidesaddle Skirt to Pants

Western women were also making their mark as North America's first professional female athletes—in rodeos. Not one of them considered riding sidesaddle as they put their lives on the line to entertain while on horseback.

Idaho's "Queen of Diamonds" Kittie Wilkins is pictured riding sidesaddle in 1890. Selling top notch horses she bred to freight companies, the U.S. Cavalry and even Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West show, Wilkins had the reputation of being the only female in America who based her livelihood solely on the horse trade

Strangely enough, though, one of the greatest rodeo queens got her start riding sidesaddle. In her first rodeo event, at a county fair in 1906, 13-year-old Vera McGinnis was the only rider who rode sidesaddle, in a dress, competing against much older girls. "It so happened that the horse show judge was a bit old fashioned and frowned upon such things as girls riding clothespin-style so Vera won first prize, a gold-handled umbrella," *True West* reported in 1991.

McGinnis went on to become famous for putting pants on women in the ring and for her daring stunts, which included circling a horse's belly at full gallop

Fall of the Sidesaddle

When the end came, it came quickly. Less than a generation passed before the sidesaddle became a quaint anachronism, noted O'Reilly, in her article, "Sidesaddles and Suffragettes, the Fight to Ride and Vote."

"The fall of the sidesaddle is linked to the rise of female liberty, for it was

"Sidesaddle" and "purity" was so prevalent that even the ladies in Civil War camps kept their legs off to the side under dresses so long that they nearly reached the ground! One kick of her horse would spell disaster for this lady approaching an officer's quarters, decorated with a Union flag for a curtain. You can see why these hoop skirts allowed women to smuggle supplies, ammunition, food and medicine across enemy lines!

Getting up on a high horse takes on a new meaning when you think about the public performances of women ascending hot air balloons while seated sidesaddle on her horse, as shown in this circa 1880 lithograph. The first horse sent aloft in the air flew by platform, a dream realized by fox hunter Tetu Brissy in 1797, and the horse graduated to a balloon in 1830, thanks to English aeronaut Charles Green

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The sidesaddle trend even traveled with women overseas, as evidenced by this 1860 Japanese print showing a young American woman seated sidesaddle on a horse

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

the dawning of political freedom which brought about the overdue death of this repressive equine invention," she wrote

Once women were offered the option, she noted, "they abandoned the sidesaddle in droves in favor of riding astride."

Nobody blinked when that beautiful child, Elizabeth Taylor, rode astride in 1944's *National Velvet*—a girl not hankering to be a helpless passenger on a horse, but racing in the Grand National steeplechase

Just look in *The Book of the Horse*—a nearly 900-page masterpiece by Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald—and note he didn't cite a single reference to the sidesaddle. He didn't recognize the political straightjacket the sidesaddle had been for centuries to women, but modern writers make the connection clear

What became of dear Anne of Bohemia, our sidesaddle star, whose royal virginity would impact millions of women over 500 years?

She died after 12 years of marriage. Childless.

Jana Bommersbach has earned recognition as Arizona's Journalist of the Year and won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She cowrote the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and has written two true crime books, a children's book and the historical novel *Cattle Kate*

Who Shot J.W.?

Solving a cold case history mystery of a murder on the lonely Llano Estacado.

BY BILL NEAL

With cold, unblinking eyes, a well-dressed gentleman stared at J.W. Jarrott as he walked with his wife, Mollie, down the main street of Lubbock, Texas, in August 1902. J.W. said to Mollie, "There's a man I'd rather not see in this country."

After the Jarrotts passed, the stranger quietly disappeared.

Settling a Slice of No-Man's Land

That spring, J.W. had begun settling his family and 24 "nesters" on uninhabited plains southwest of Lubbock—a semiarid, windswept wilderness, without trees or flowing streams.

Before the Santa Fe railroad reached Lubbock in 1909, only 293 hardy pioneers populated the county, the 1900 census reported. Just 44 lived to the west, in Hockley County.

J.W. brought his homesteaders to southern Hockley County; the northern part was largely owned by XIT Ranch. A broke Texas had traded this land after the capitol burned down in Austin. In 1882, the legislature granted a Chicago group 3.05 million acres in exchange for a red granite capitol, a frontier skyscraper that stands to this day.

Cattle barons resented any intrusion on "their" turf—particularly by nesters. And particularly J.W.

The lawyer had seized an opportunity to settle a slice of no-man's land, pointed out to him by his friend, the commissioner of the Texas General Land Office, Charles Rogan. A surveyor error left an unfenced vacancy that ranchers utilized as free grasslands. Rogan classified this strip "school land" and placed it on the market to homesteaders, pursuant to Texas's Four-Sections Act.

While Rogan waited for the legislature to pay his surveyor's $3,000 fee, J.W. put up a "good faith" deposit of $500 to kick-start the survey. When Rogan refunded J.W.'s deposit, he gave him a copy of the survey. On April 24, 1902, J.W. filed the first batch of applications at the land office. In May, Mollie packed up the three children and left Stephenville to join J.W. on their four sections, totaling 2,560 acres.

Cattlemen were furious. They had spent large sums drilling, equipping and maintaining windmills every four miles across their ranges. Water was for cattle, not settlers.

"We realized that our settling meant an intrusion upon the cowmen's grazing range," Mary wrote, "but we had staked our lives here in the midst of their domain without even a fence to mark our own ground, and had no choice but to trespass as we gathered dry cow chips for wood and watered the horses and carried our water from their wells."

Cattle Barons vs. Nesters

What was a mere 2,560 acres compared to the hundreds of thousands of grassland acres controlled by these cattle kings?

The cattlemen's long-range fiscal future hinged on obtaining long-term leases on large blocks of land from the state for pennies per acre and then renewing those leases. They did not need squatters fencing off small tracts in their pastures or running up lease fees.

If the 1897 enactment of the Four-Sections Act was a gut punch to the cattle kings, they were in for another.

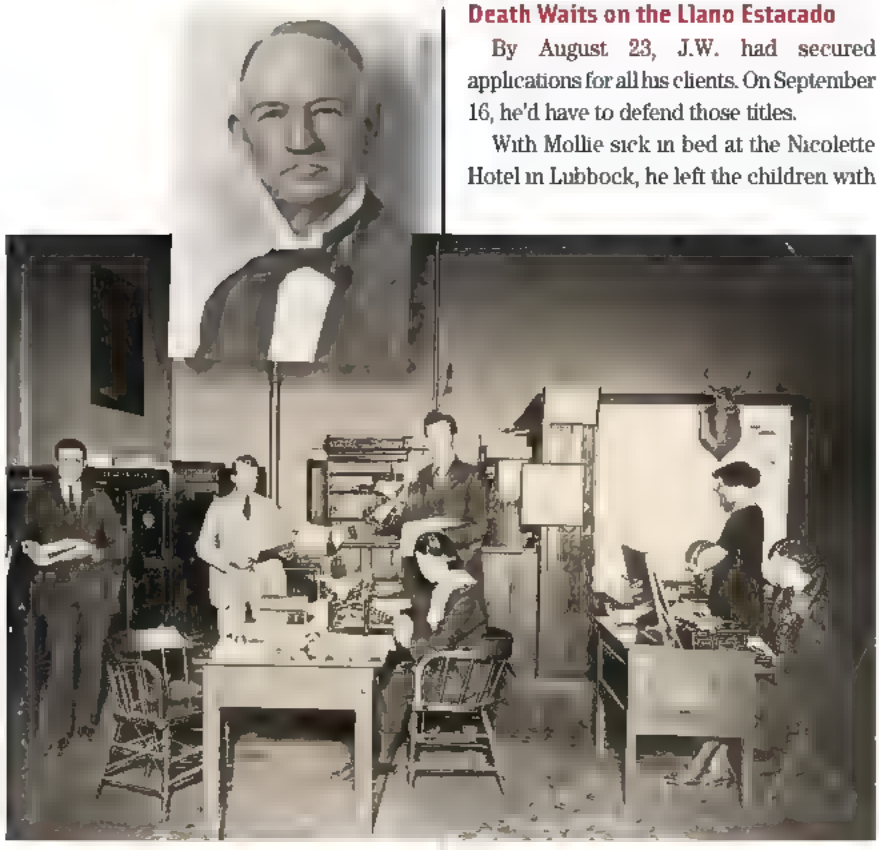
Whenever a lease terminated on school land, settlers could purchase four-section tracts within that acreage. Otherwise,

W. Jarrott (seated), led other nesters in filing homestead claims on a slice of no-man's-land in the South Plains of Texas. Statehood at the turn of the 20th century. After his assassination, his wife, Mollie (standing), seized the reins and encouraged the other nesters to "stay put."

COURTESY SOUTHWEST COLLECTION/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY, LUBBOCK, TEXAS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Charles Rogan (inset), the commissioner of the Texas General Land Office and a friend of J.W. Jarrott and his homesteaders, executed their four section homestead certificates. Jarrott filed the settlers' land applications at the Lubbock County Clerk's office shown here.

ROGAN INSET COURTESY CUSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



cattlemen could renew the lease. Ranchers found a loophole. Prior to termination, they failed to pay the bill. When the lease lapsed, the only one who knew the land was available got it—the rancher.

In 1902, the Texas Supreme Court declared the "lapsed-lease" trick an unlawful deprivation of a settler's opportunity to purchase land within a cattleman's lease.

That summer, the cattlemen concocted another strategy to eliminate these squatters. They filed lawsuits.

The cowboy plaintiffs contended the land office should not approve the applications because the defendants were not "actual settlers," but "bonus seekers" who sought to flip the land to others for a profit. J.W. contended they were "actual settlers," unlike the cowboy plaintiffs, who were puppets of the Lake Tomb Ranch.

Death Waits on the Llano Estacado

By August 23, J.W. had secured applications for all his clients. On September 16, he'd have to defend those titles.

With Mollie sick in bed at the Nicolette Hotel in Lubbock, he left the children with her and headed to the homestead.

Outside present-day Ropesville, on August 27, J.W. stopped to water his horses at two windmills, the "Twin Towers."

Hidden behind a dirt dam, an assassin fired his first round. Wounded, but not fatally, J.W. either jumped off his buggy or was thrown by the horses. The assassin kept firing. The last two struck J.W.'s back as he floundered in the water, desperately attempting to escape. The killer left the unarmed 41-year-old in a trail of blood.

When his employer did not return, Jim Doyle rode to Lubbock, taking the northern route, not the southern path by Twin Towers. He reached Mollie by Friday and told her J.W. was missing.

"They've killed him!" she said.

On August 30, Doyle and others found J.W.'s body. His wagon was nearby, and somebody had hobbled both horses and hung the harness on the windmill tower.

Like wildfire, news of J.W.'s death swept across the South Plains. Fear invaded every homesteader tent and dugout—particularly among J.W.'s strip settlers. Would they be next on the hit list?

Yet Mollie refused to retreat.

The settlers bonded on mutual support. Mary Blankenship wrote, "The name Jim Jarrott became a legend among us, and his martyrdom served to spur us on. We determined not to pull up stakes and retreat back to the East."

In 1903, Lake Tomb cowboy Ben Glaser admitted to a grand jury that he rode to Twin Towers, hobbled the horses and hung the harness, but he denied seeing J.W.'s body.

The grand jury returned murder indictments against Lake Tomb cowboys Glaser, Morgan Bellow, B.F. Nix and William Barrington, the latter indicted as the triggerman. He had also filed suit in 1902 to strip a J.W. settler of his homestead.

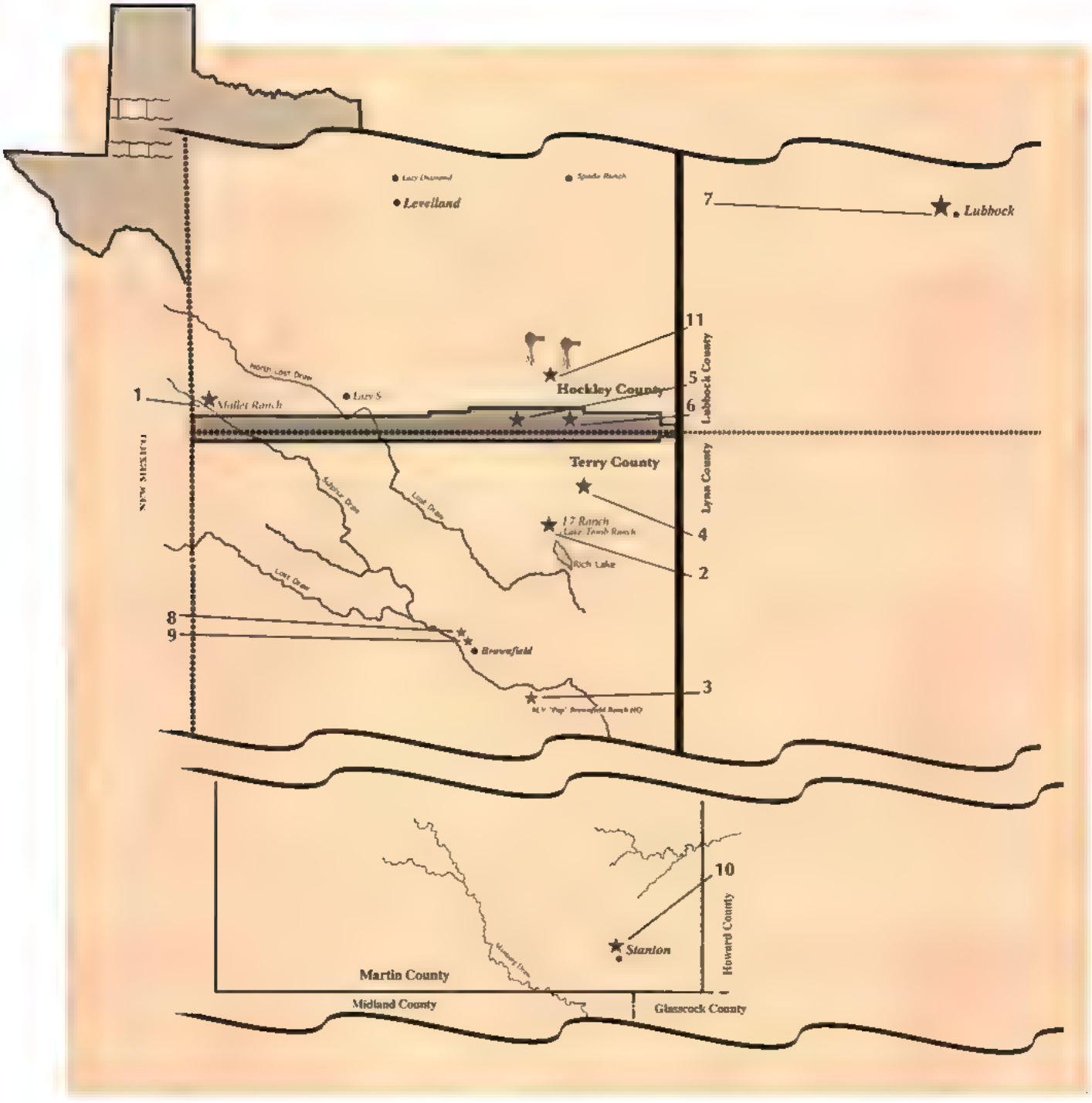
In 1905, the prosecution dismissed indictments for lack of evidence. The murder became a cold case.

A Bizarre Deed-Shuffle

After killing J.W. on August 27, 1902, the assassin headed south on his horse, witnessed by 16-year-old Grace Cowan, the daughter of one of J.W.'s strip settlers.

The only logical destination in that direction within riding distance was a ranch 12 miles south of the Cowan homestead. The cattleman who owned it was Marion Virgil "Pap" Brownfield, who also paid the accused triggerman's bond.

Pap had owned ranches near Fort Worth and Abilene before leasing 52 sections in Terry County in 1894. In February 1903, his lease was expiring on four school sections.



1. David DeVitt's Mallett Ranch headquarters; 2. Lake Tomb Cattle Co's L7 Ranch headquarters. 3. M.V. "Pap" Brownfield's cattle ranch headquarters. 4. Location of J.W. Jarrott's brother Ward's dugout, where J.W. and his first group of homesteaders waited for the Texas General Land Office to set a date when they could file their four section claims. 5. J.W. and Mollie Jarrott's homestead. 6. A.W. and Mary Blankenship's homestead. 7. Lubbock County Clerk's office. 8. The four school sections in Terry County that the state put up for sale, and Pap got back through trickery. 9. The four railroad sections in Terry County which Jim Miller got from D.J. Howard, land that ended up back with the Brownfields, in the hands of Pap's son, Dick. 10. Martin County District Court were Howard filed his lawsuit after he learned Miller's deed shuffle had resulted in the Brownfields getting the land. 11. Twin Mills on the L7 Ranch where J.W. was assassinated, directly north of "Pap" Brownfield's ranch headquarters

MAP BY JOHN HOPE

Francisco Vasquez de Coronado had crossed this land, known as Llano Estacado, Staked Plains, in 1541, during his search for the fabled seven cities of gold, as Frederic Remington portrayed in his 1898 oil shown above. Major Stephen H. Long, in 1820, described the place as a "Great American Desert." In 1849, Capt Randolph B. Marcy (inset) predicted the land would be "uninhabited forever." He was wrong.

REMINGTON TRUE WEST ARCHIVES; MARCY COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Through tricks and fistfights, Pap secured title. That wasn't enough of a victory. Pap also wanted four adjacent sections.

On January 23, 1903, nearly a year after D.J. Howard had purchased the land from Z.T. Joiner, a man who witnessed the first land swap paid Howard a $3,900 promissory note for the land.

Intoxicated by the prospect of grabbing a whopping sum for land he bought for $896, Howard found out only too late that the note was bogus.

A bizarre deed-shuffle began on January 30, when the man sold the land to Fort Worth banker W.H. Fisher for $4,100 cash. On March 7, Fisher conveyed the deed to Pap's son Dick.

Why did the banker buy this land? Fisher was fronting Pap to pay the man's assassination fee.

So, who shot J.W.?

The Hitman

Jim Miller. The hitman was living in Fort Worth at the time of J.W.'s assassination. He was not yet known for his most famous hit, at least, according to some historians—killing Billy the Kid's killer, former Lincoln County Sheriff Pat Garrett, in 1908.

In 1904, Pap helped Miller beat a charge for murdering former Deputy U.S. Marshal Frank Fore, who a mortgage company had hired to investigate Miller's forged land titles. Pap testified he saw Miller kill Fore in self-defense. The jury returned a not guilty verdict.

After Miller's acquittal, evidence pointed to Miller killing Deputy U.S. Marshal Ben Collins. Marshal Jack Abernathy tracked down Miller in August 1906.

Since Miller surrendered peaceably, Abernathy did not shackle his prisoner during the train ride to the jail in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Warming to the marshal, Miller boasted about murder charges he had beaten. Miller refused to elaborate, until Abernathy assured him any admissions would be off the record.

Isolation, loneliness and danger is what J.W. Jarrott and his settlers found on the Llano Estacado in Texas. This circa 1900 dugout is the typical first home of most dirt poor homesteaders who filed four section claims on the South Plains

"Who was the hardest man to kill in your experience?" Abernathy asked.

"Jim Jarrott," Miller replied, adding he shot the unarmed victim five times.

Miller again dodged the hangman's noose when the court dismissed his murder charge. But not forever.

On February 27, 1909, two days shy of the one-year anniversary of Garrett's assassination, ex-Deputy U.S. Marshal Gus Bobbitt was killed, near Ada.

The case against Miller was not resolved in court. On April 19, a mob stormed the jail and grabbed the four accused murderers. Although no known published accounts about the lynching quote Miller's last words, when the noose slipped around Miller's neck, popular lore claims he said, "Let 'er rip."

Pioneer Terry County rancher Marion Virgil "Pap" Brownfield (inset) was a friend to outlaw Sam Bass and son-in-law to Robert Hornbeck, who rode with William Clark Quantrill during his hit-and-run raids in Kansas free soil territory. After marrying Elizabeth Hornbeck in 1876, Pap owned ranches around Texas before landing in Llano Estacado. He was among the cattle barons angered by the nesters intruding into their land and grabbing water from windmill tanks the cowmen had built for their cattle.

BROWNFIELD INSET COURTESY TERRY COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION; TEXAS PANHANDLE CATTLE PHOTO COURTESY USGS

Nicolett Hotel, constructed in 1889 in Lubbock, Texas, is the place where J.W. Jarrott and his wife, Mollie, spent their last night together, on August 27, 1902. The family's four sections were about 30 miles away and a day's ride, yet he never made it home.

Jim Miller had escaped the noose in several murder trials by calling his cast of standby defense witnesses, ready to testify on demand and as directed. But after fatally ambushing former Deputy U.S. Marshal Angus A. "Gus" Bobbitt near Ada, Oklahoma, in 1909, an enraged group of locals decided Miller had dodged the noose one time too many. Miller is the man hanged on the left.

PUBLISHED IN *WEEKLY DEMOCRAT* OF ADA, OKLAHOMA, APRIL 23, 1909

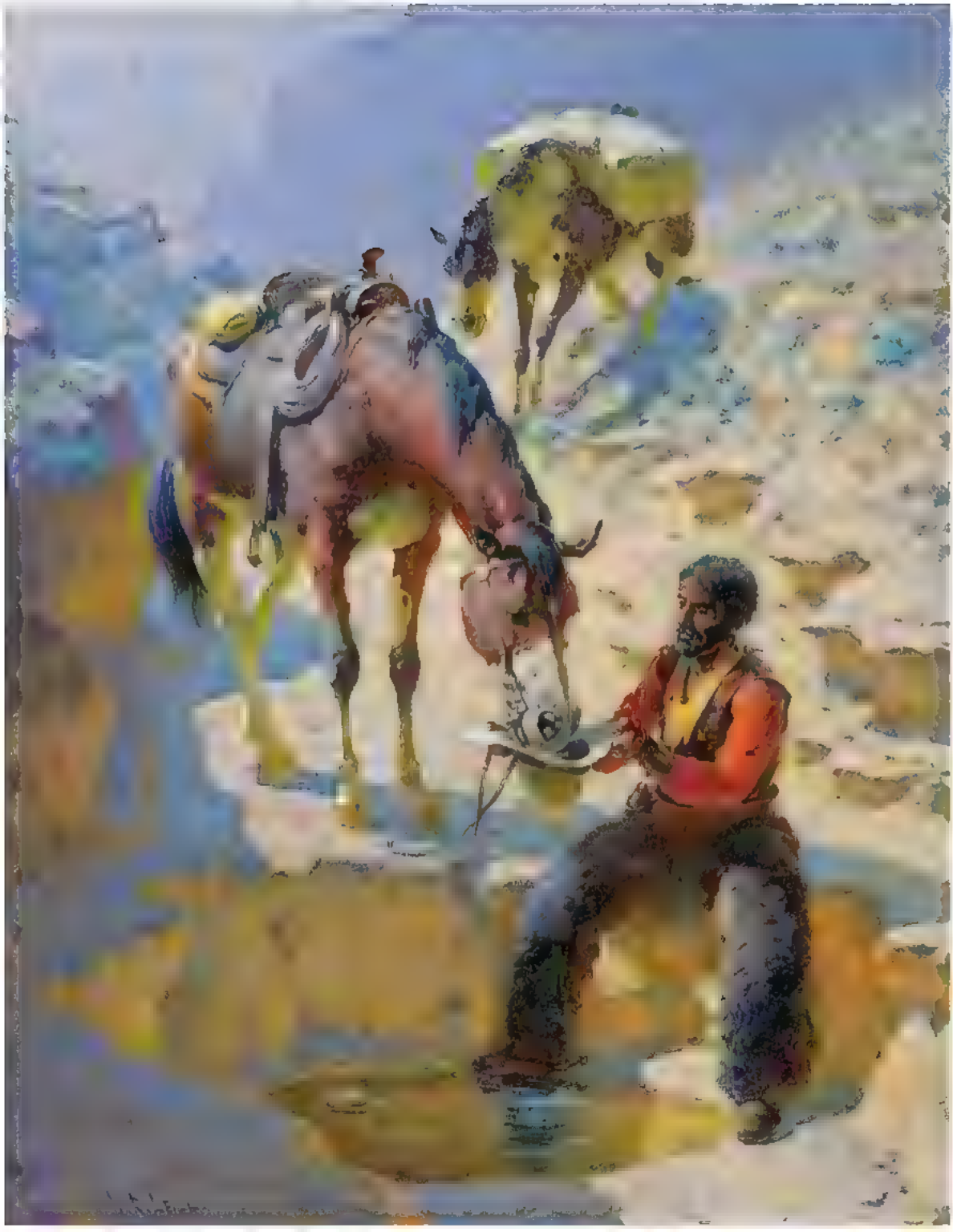
"He Gave His Life for It"

Mollie occupied the homestead for 17 years after J.W.'s assassination, expanding her cattle ranch's four sections to 16.

In 1933, she learned of Miller's confession. Abernathy told her after finding out that year his cousin Monroe had married J.W.'s widow, in 1905.

Llano Estacado is vastly different today than it was 115 years ago, when J.W. and his homestead seekers arrived in covered wagons. Before Mollie died in Lubbock in 1960, aged 94, she reflected: "There's never been anybody who did more for the settlement of this country than Mr. Jarrott, and he gave his life for it."

This edited excerpt is from *Death on the Lonely Llano Estacado*, published by University of North Texas Press. **Bill Neal** practiced criminal law in West Texas for 40 years. He is also the author of *Vengeance is Mine: The Scandalous Love Triangle that Triggered the Boyce-Sneed Feud* (UNT Press); *Getting Away with Murder on the Texas Frontier*; and *Skullduggery, Secrets, and Murders*.



When J.W. Jarrott pulled up to water his parched horses by the Twin Towers, like this cowboy did in W.R. Leigh's oil, *One Good Turn Deserves Another*, Jarrott didn't find relief, but an assassin's bullet.

COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS NOVEMBER 10 2012

True West Exclusive

Classic Gunfights

The Encounter that Dooms Wild Bill

James Butler Hickok vs Wild Bill

"Every Honest Man Secretly Welcomes a Press Agent"

James Butler Hickok pulls the wool over a journalist's eyes.

ALL IMAGES TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Based on the research of Joseph G. Rosa

SEPTEMBER 1865

George Ward Nichols and Gen. Thomas Church Haskell Smith, the inspector general of the District of Southwest Missouri, arrive in Springfield, Missouri. In this war-torn area, Smith confides to Nichols that in the "six months preceding not less than 4,000 returned Confederates had been summarily disposed of by shooting or hanging."

Nichols meets James Butler Hickok and interviews him for a possible article. Hickok lays his tale on thick, and Nichols writes down every word.

A journalist born in Tremont, Maine, on June 21, 1831, Nichols joined the Union Army after the outbreak of the Civil War and served under John C. Frémont and later on, Gen. William Sherman. Nichols rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel. At the close of the Civil War, in 1865, Harper & Brothers published Nichols' diary, *The Story of the Great March*, about Sherman's "March to the Sea" through Georgia, from November 15 to December 21, 1864.

Now that the Civil War was over, Nichols found himself working again as a journalist. When he meets Hickok, he decides to write up the frontiersman's exploits. Nichols documents Hickok's shoot-out on July 21 that killed gambler and former Confederate soldier Davis Tutt.

The article, "Wild Bill," in which Nichols misspelled the gunfighter's last name as "Hitchcock," appeared in the February 1867 edition of *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*. The article made Hickok a celebrity, even as it got immediate blowback from frontier West newspapers, including the *Leavenworth Daily Conservative*, *The Kansas Daily Commonwealth*, *The Springfield Patriot* and the *Atchison Daily Champion*, which all slammed the stories as inaccurate, especially the part where Hickok claimed he had killed "hundreds of men."

James Butler Hickok liked to carouse. Given his rowdy sense of humor, he enjoyed pulling a leg, or two. When he met George Ward Nichols (inset), Hickok must have enjoyed seeing how much he could fool the journalist. The answer is, apparently, quite a bit.

BY BOB BOZE BELL

"I have told his story precisely as it was told to me, confirmed in all important points by many witnesses; and I have no doubt of its truth."

—*George Ward Nichols*

George Ward Nichols left Springfield, Missouri, with his interview notes and a photograph of James Butler Hickok. The artist who illustrated the *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* article used this photograph as reference. Historians were unable to match the drawing to any photographs of Hickok until 1989, when the above photograph was discovered in a an album once owned by Richard Bentley Owen. This image clearly matches the drawing. The artist also drew the shown depiction of Hickok saying goodbye to Nichols, who is mounted on horseback, with Gen. Thomas Church Haskell Smith in background.

HICKOK PHOTO COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION; ILLUSTRATIONS PUBLISHED IN FEBRUARY 1867 *HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE*

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

Stung by the criticism of his *Harper's* article on James Butler Hickok, George Ward Nichols moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, and decided to write about music. He died there, on September 15, 1885.

All the media attention, both good and bad, fanned the flames of interest, and Hickok graduated from regional folk hero into a national celebrity known as "Wild Bill." After acting in a theatrical tour with "Buffalo Bill" Cody, Hickok moved on up to breathe the rarefied air of a living legend.

On November 13, 1873, "Wild Bill" Hickok, "Texas Jack" Omohundro and "Buffalo Bill" Cody (from left) staged their premiere of "Scouts of the Plains" in Buffalo, New York.

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Unfortunately, Hickok's fame put a target on his back. Before long, someone took aim at that target.

Recommended: *The Illustrated Life & Times of Wild Bill Hickok* by Bob Boze Bell, published by Two Roads West. *Wild Bill Hickok. The Man & His Myth* by Joseph G. Rosa, published by University Press of Kansas.

BY WILLIAM A. MILLS

LITTLE KNOWN CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

Mystery Man Identified

The story of the man wearing "Buckskin Frank" Leslie's gun belt in an 1886 Tombstone portrait.

Chiricahua Apache Chief Cochise awoke from his drunken stupor, likely disappointed he and his Apaches didn't get to torture Capt. James Henry Tevis over a slow fire

JAMES E. TAYLOR ILLUSTRATION PUBLISHED IN 1882'S *OUR WILD INDIANS* BY RICHARD IRVING DODGE

The mystery of an "unidentified" man wearing "Buckskin Frank" Leslie's gun belt has been solved.

Among the Arizona Historical Society's images is the same studio portrait. The caption reads: "Capt. Tevis, Confederate officer, who located in Arizona just after Civil War. (Photo 1886.)"

Born on July 11, 1837, in Wheeling, West Virginia, the son of John and Elizabeth (McNamee) Tevis, James left home in 1849, aged 12, and joined a steamboat crew as a cabin boy. The mighty Mississippi River took him all the way to New Orleans, Louisiana.

James migrated to Arizona Territory, where he worked for Butterfield Overland Mail during the late 1850s and helped construct the stage station at Apache Pass. In 1857, after arriving in Tucson, James befriended Moses Carson, the older brother of famous frontiersman Kit. Moses taught James wilderness survival skills.

James joined the Arizona Guards. During an 1860 battle, the Mimbreños captured James and some of his men. They joined up with Chiricahua Chief Cochise, who foretold, "Tevis, I shall burn you alive and dance while you are burning."

Cochise gave James a glimpse of his future, forcing the captive to watch his two comrades get strung upside down and then slowly roasted alive over a fire.

At Apache Pass, Cochise held a drunken celebration with his warriors. After the intoxicated Apaches fell asleep, James's Apache friend Esconolea rescued him.

During the Civil War, James fought for the Confederates under Lt. Col. Philemon T. Herbert's battalion of Arizona cavalry. After the war, James married Emma Boston on Christmas Eve 1866, in St. Louis, Missouri, where they resided until 1877. Together, they raised a family of five girls and three boys.

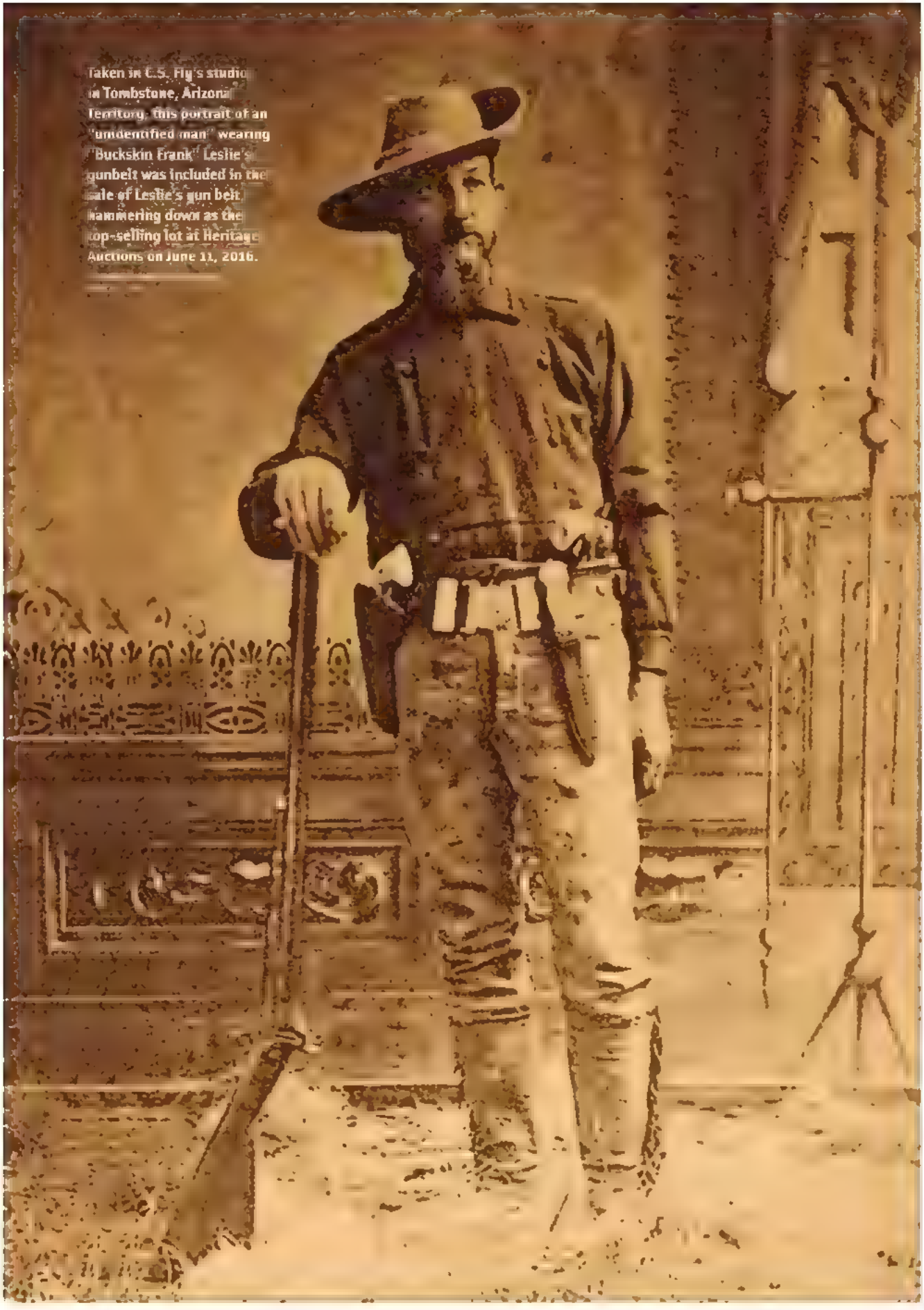
James moved his family to Kansas and then, in 1880, to Arizona Territory, settling in Cochise County. Four years later, they moved so James could operate a Southern Pacific Railroad hotel. The town site became Teviston, named in his honor, then Bowie Station and shortened to Bowie.

James shared his pioneer adventures in *Arizona in the '50s*, written in 1880 and published in 1954 by daughters Belle and Minnie—almost 50 years after he died, on August 29, 1905. In 1964, the book became the basis for Walt Disney's *The Tenderfoot* miniseries. Brandon de Wilde, of 1953's *Shane* fame, played James.

In 1891, James became a representative in the Arizona Territorial Legislature. He advocated closing Yuma prison, executing the felons and publicly whipping the rest. In 1903, he returned to his eponymous town to work as postmaster, living out the last years of his life.

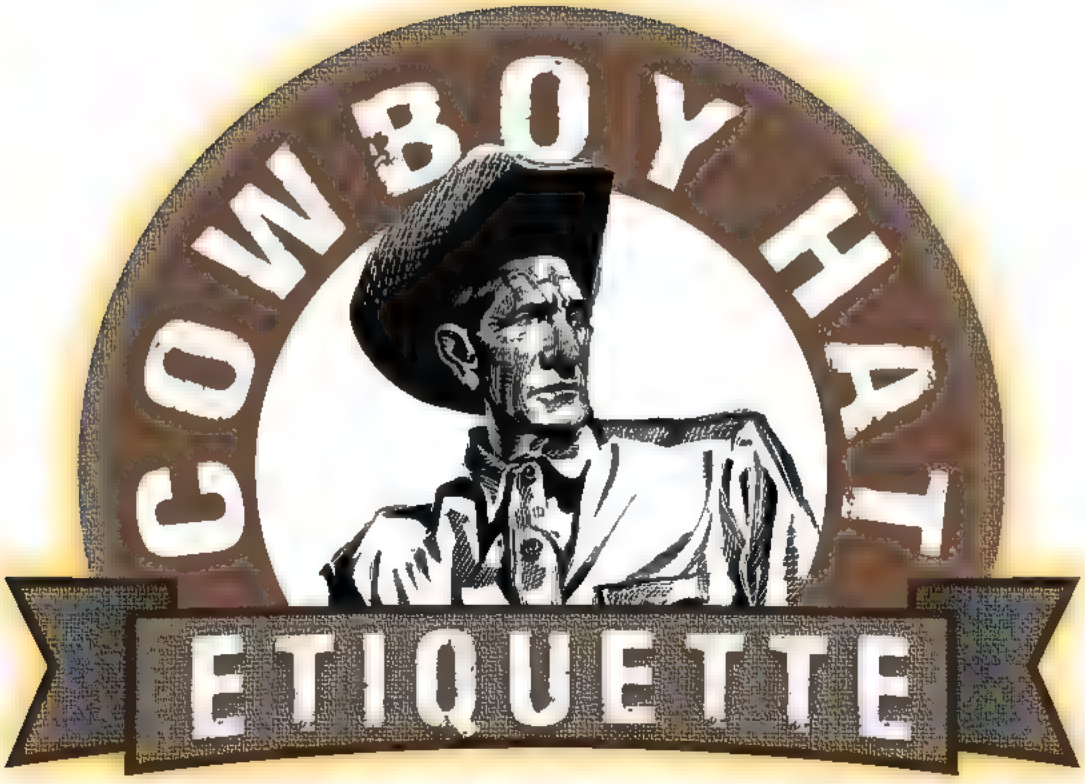
History has not revealed how James came to be wearing Leslie's gun belt in C.S. Fly's Tombstone studio in 1886. The best guess is that Leslie may have been scouting for U.S. Army Gen. George Crook's campaign to capture Geronimo, and he left his prized silver-buckled gun belt with James for safekeeping. Only time will tell.

William A. Mills has researched court and cemetery records since 1985. The author of seven books and a former historical consultant for TLC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* he is currently researching Billy the Kid, focusing on the outlaw's mysterious early life and New York years.



Taken in C.S. Fly's studio in Tombstone, Arizona Territory, this portrait of an "unidentified man" wearing "Buckskin Frank" Leslie's gunbelt was included in the sale of Leslie's gun belt, hammering down as the top-selling lot at Heritage Auctions on June 11, 2016.

By Bob Boze Bell



A SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR CITY FOLKS WHO MAY NOT KNOW THE RULES.

Before we get to the Boy's Club Rules, Lynda A. Sánchez, a third-generation rancher, weighs in with her thoughts on how women have made manners gentler and frontier living more polite.

"Women have always made a difference, unless you are some tough wannabe bushwacker or a back-shooter. Let's face it, men, by themselves, can be slobs in all kinds of ways: hygiene, clothing style, sloppy mannerisms, bad table manners, leaving the toilet seat up. The presence of women usually causes them to change their ways for the better.

"I was always taught that real cowboys tipped their hats to a lady or female. My husband does that, as do most of the old-timers. I was taught that you take off your hat or cap in a home, church, restaurant or theater. In a public building, you can keep it on, but if you go into a courtroom, you better take it off, otherwise the judge will nail you.

"When I taught school, the boys had to take off their hats or caps. In other classrooms, the teachers didn't care. If a kid entered my room and forgot my rule, all I had to do was point to my head, and the hat was swept off and placed out of sight. Some individuals either have no manners or they don't understand hat etiquette.

"We have gotten away from a lot of the politeness we used to have, thus many of our rules have little meaning, except in enclaves here and there. Fewer people wear hats now. Oh, and by the way, you better not mess with my husband's hat. That is still a no-no. A man who wears a Stetson treats it like gold, and so should the rest of the world!"

HAT RULE #1:
DO NOT TOUCH MY HAT.

Let's get this straight: a cowboy hat is not a toy. It is not okay to touch a cowboy's hat, or put on a stray cowboy hat lying around a bunkhouse or a truckstop. It is not okay to grab it off a cowboy's head, and it is absolutely forbidden to say, as you reach out, "Gee, what's that made of?"

Exception: A fiance may touch a cowboy's hat once—on the honeymoon—but that's it. Also, a grandchild may do whatever they want to a cowboy hat, short of sleeping in it. It is, after all, just a hat. I know that doesn't seem fair, but that's just the deal.

HAT RULE #2:
DO NOT WEAR YOUR COWBOY HAT IN MAMA'S HOUSE.

There is no more disrespectful thing you can do, short of killing the family dog, than wearing your cowboy hat inside your mama's house. This includes your friend's mama's house, as well. This even includes mamas from other nations. Moms are sacred and every cowboy knows it. Don't do it.

Exception: You may wear your cowboy hat when you are forced to enter the house of your ex-wife's mother. You know, the one who never thought you were good enough to marry her daughter. If you do, though, you must be prepared to fight your ex-wife, her mother and whoever is sleeping with the two sluts at the time of the entry. That's a hard trade off, but it's usually worth it.

HAT RULE #3:
TIP YOUR HAT LIKE YOU MEAN IT.

Don't just flick the brim, remove it from your noggin so there is no confusion when you're acknowledging a crowd in a parade or just a pretty girl on the boardwalk. But don't be waving it around like some hillbilly shouting for help.

President Theodore Roosevelt embodied the Western lifestyle more than any American chief executive, before or since. The former Rough Rider tips his signature cowboy hat to the crowd after returning from a hunt in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, in 1905.

DOING THE HALF-TIP

When the National Anthem is playing, cowboys will often do a "half tip" of the hat as these cowboys from Pie Town, New Mexico, are doing in the 1940s

SALOON ETIQUETTE PROGRESSION

Fresh off the range, the LS cowboys in the top photo belly up to the bar in full working regalia. Note that the bartender wears a cap. In the second photo, from the turn of the 20th century we see a woman with a hat on in a San Francisco saloon. The third photo shows Buffalo Bill's Irma Hotel saloon some time after 1902 and all the men wear hats indoors. However, the bottom photo, which looks to be about 1915–20, we see hatless men at the bar. In fact, one of them has taken his off just for the photo. This trend would continue to the present day.

HAT RULE #4: WEARING HATS INDOORS IS COMPLICATED.

Many cowboys have been in the armed services where it was drilled in to them to take off their lid when they are indoors. This wasn't true in the Old West where you see cowboys wearing hats in saloons and dining halls, but today is a different deal. When in doubt—doff it.

Exception: In some parts of the country, if you enter a restaurant, it's okay to wear your hat at the counter, but not in a booth. This can be dicey if you see someone you know at a table when you are sitting at the counter, with your hat on. If you approach your friend at the table you can say hi and keep your hat on, but if you sit down, the hat must come off. This is known as the "heading-towards-the-door" rule. It is perfectly acceptable to wear your hat, as you cross the dining room towards the door, but do not dilly dally, or the hat must come off.

Exception to the Exception: While everyone agrees the hat comes off in church, it is okay to wear your hat in Cowboy Church, but then it comes off for the Lord's Prayer.

HAT RULE #5: THE DANCE FLOOR DILEMMA.

In the old days, cowboys wore their hats to dances and never took them off, especially while struttin' around the dance floor. But, so many fights broke out when hats got bumped during dances that there are still places—mostly in Texas—where there is a hard and fast rule that you must take your hat off while dancing.

Exception: When a cowboy and a cowgirl are both wearing hats and it's time for a grinder, it is considered appropriate to leave both hats with a baby-sitter back at the booth.

In frontier days, women were few and far between, particularly on ranches, so men would two-step and waltz with each other at dances. "Heifer branded men," who danced the woman's role, sometimes wore handkerchiefs tied around one arm, like the gentleman at right in the above photo. Such cowboy stag dances were mainly a source of humor and reflected good times.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

HAT RULE #6:
COWGIRLS CAN GET AWAY WITH MURDER.

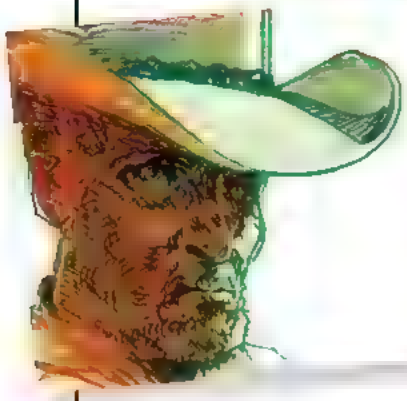
Most of the hat rules cowboys adhere to are not applicable to a pretty cowgirl.
Exception:
Ha! There is no exception to this sexist and ridiculous rule

"So Sue us."

HAT RULE #7:
NO HATS IN CHURCH, EXCEPT

While almost everyone agrees that it's mandatory that hats come off in church, there is an exception as it relates to a new phenomenon called "Cowboy Church." In this fast growing church, cowboys are allowed to wear their hats at an indoor service, but they must take it off for the Lord's Prayer.

HAT RULE #8:
BEWARE OF HAT RULES



If a cowboy insists on you adhering to these hat rules, try and keep a wide berth. Who needs all these damn rules anyhow?

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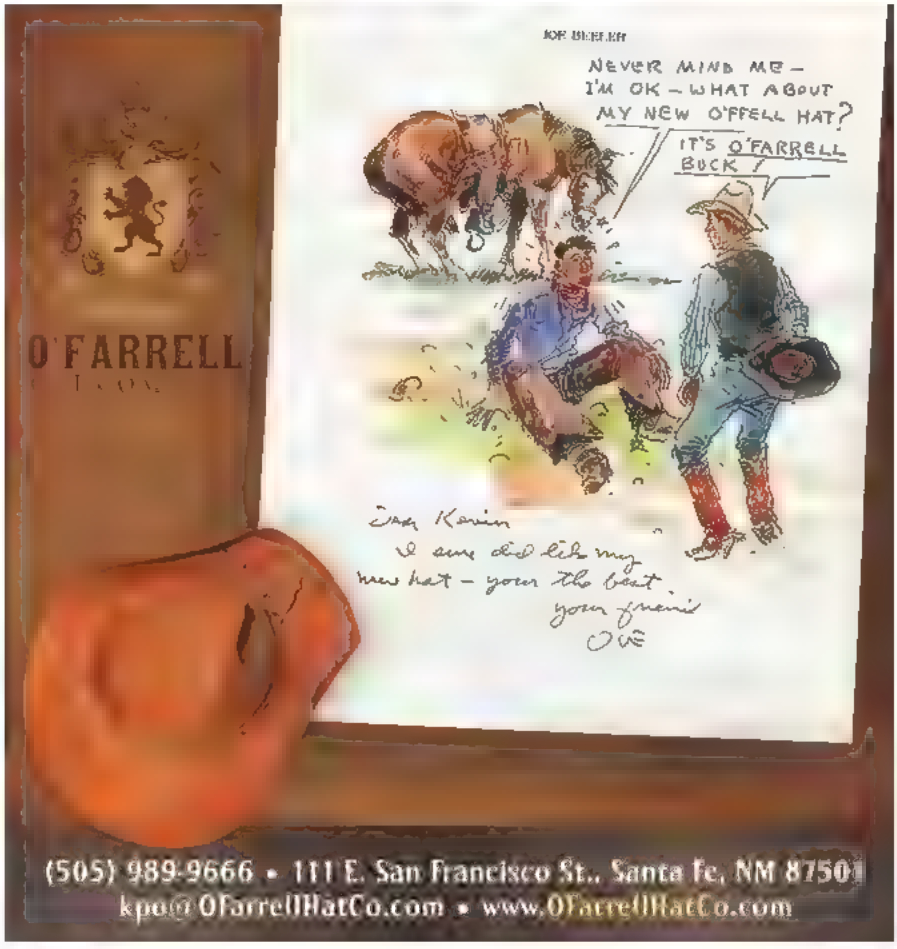
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BY CANDY MOULTON

Reveille on the Overland Trail

Trace the Western campaigns of the 6th and 11th Ohio Cavalry for Old West adventures in Nebraska and Wyoming.

The Red Buttes landmark, now known as Bessemer Bend, went west along the Oregon Trail from the North Platte River to the Sweetwater River. The bend is very close to where 23 U.S. soldiers were killed on July 26, 1865, the same day Lt. Caspar Collins was mortally wounded at the Battle of Platte Bridge. William Henry Jackson most likely photographed the Hayden Survey five years later as the survey's wagon train trailed to its camp along the Sweetwater.

COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION NO. 516886

Ohio State Senator William O. Collins, a proponent of war-funding after the attack on Fort Sumter in April 1861, took a stronger stand for the Union by raising a regiment of cavalry in southern Ohio, known as the 7th Ohio Cavalry. Before the full regiment could be organized, it combined with the 6th Ohio Cavalry, and Collins became the commander.

In January 1862, Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck ordered the 6th Ohio and Collins to report to Benton Barrack at St. Louis, but just after they arrived they were ordered first to Nebraska City, Nebraska, and then on west to Fort Laramie, where their assignment was to guard the Overland Mail.

In time, the Ohio troops combined with additional companies until, by the spring of 1863, the 6th Ohio became the 11th Ohio. These troops patrolled along the route of overland pioneers and the overland mail at a critical time during the nation's history.

The Ohio troops spent little time at Fort Kearny, but that is where our trip begins. This post, established in 1847, had buildings

The barracks at Fort Laramie National Historic Site is one of several buildings restored at the strategic post near the North Platte River that served generations of fur traders, Plains tribes, overland trail emigrants and soldiers

COURTESY TRAVEL WYOMING

Visitors to Nebraska's Fort Kearny State Historical Park will discover a living history center with a re created stockade and regularly scheduled summer events

CANDY MOULTON

made of adobe and wood and included a post office—which was very important to travelers who could send a letter home—as well as a telegraph station, barracks and a large storehouse.

A couple of miles west of Fort Kearny, Dobytown housed a community of business entrepreneurs who sold liquor and goods, and operated establishments for gambling and where soiled doves plied their services.

Like the Ohio troops', our route continues west (take Interstate 80 or U.S. Highway 30) through Ogallala and then angles northeast along the North Platte River (follow U.S. 26) toward Scotts Bluff. The 11th Ohio garrisoned posts at the Ficklin and Mud Springs stations, and built Camp Shuman (later known as Fort Mitchell) just west of Scotts Bluff. They would continue west to Fort Laramie, a site that started as a fur trade post, but like Fort Kearny, later served as a military fort along the trail that overland travelers followed to Oregon, California and Utah.

Today's travelers can visit Scotts Bluff National Monument or Fort Laramie National Historic Site. Both are remarkable for their history and their settings.

While Scotts Bluff is at the edge of a larger metropolitan area, it is easy to walk the trail taken by the 11th Ohio Cavalry and hundreds of thousands of emigrants as they headed to the West.

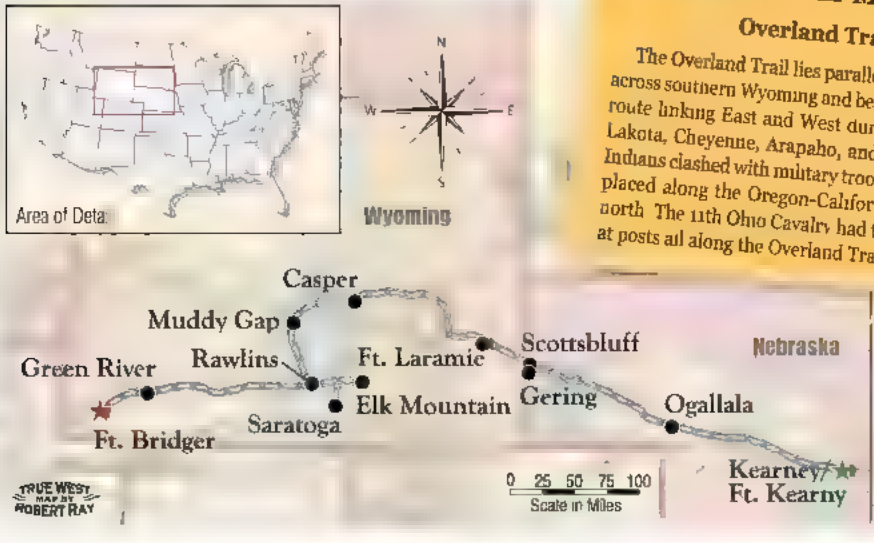
Platte Bridge Station

Our route continues to Casper, Wyoming, site of the Platte Bridge Station, a log structure built in 1859 at the crossing of the North Platte River. This was a Pony Express Station and became a military station to protect the transcontinental telegraph. It was renamed Fort Caspar, for Lt. Caspar Collins, son of the Ohio commander William O. Collins.

HISTORICAL MARKER

Overland Trail

The Overland Trail lies parallel to Interstate 80 across southern Wyoming and became the primary route linking East and West during the 1860s as Lakota, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and even Shoshone Indians clashed with military troops who had been placed along the Oregon-California trail farther north. The 11th Ohio Cavalry had troops stationed at posts all along the Overland Trail.



Scotts Bluff National Monument, just outside Scottsbluff/Gering, Nebraska, was a major landmark for emigrants and soldiers who traversed the Oregon, California, Mormon and Pony Express trails along the North Platte River

COURTESY M. FORSBERG, NEBRASKA TOURISM

One primary role for the Ohio troops was to keep the road open for travel, another involved maintenance on the telegraph line, also to keep communications flowing between East and West. Sergeant Isaac Pennock was stationed at Platte Bridge Station in 1865 when tension rose all across the region in a year that became known as the "Bloody Year on the Plains." The stations along the trail suffered nearly constant attacks, and the telegraph line was repeatedly sabotaged, as noted in a diary Sgt. Pennock kept that summer:

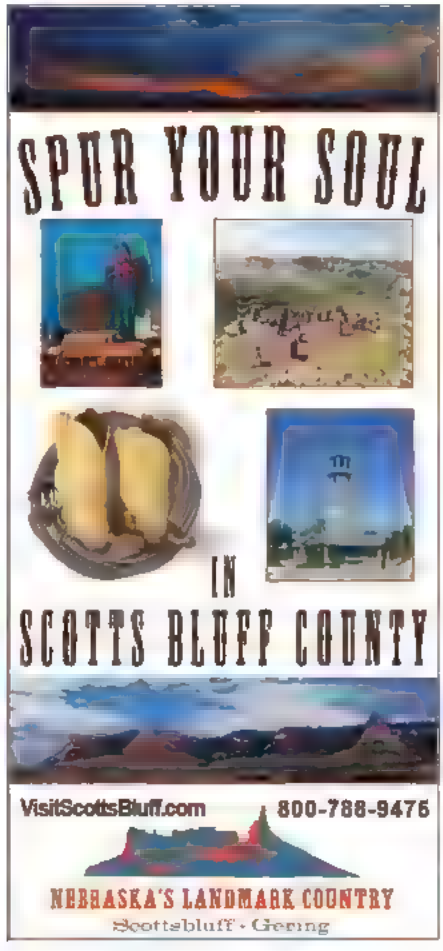
May 27—Have news that the Indians attacked Rocky Ridge (St. Mary's) [near South Pass] today in strong force.

June 3—At 3 p.m. received dispatch from Colonel Plumb that Indians have attacked station at Upper Bridge.

June 28—Fight on Reshaw Creek.

As many as 300 to 500 Lakota warriors led by Red Cloud, Old-Man-Afraid-Of-His-Horses and Young-Man-Afraid-Of-His-Horses, and Cheyenne warriors following Roman Nose, Dull Knife and White Bull gathered near the Platte River in late July 1865. Some of the warriors had been harassing troops and cutting wires of the transcontinental telegraph in the region west of Deer Creek for most of the summer. On July 25 some Indians rode toward the post at Platte Bridge. A few soldiers went out from the post to meet the Indians, engaging in a skirmish that had little effect on fighters from either side.

At the same time, Sgt. Amos J. Custard, 11th Kansas Cavalry, was en route from Sweetwater Station at Independence Rock with three mule-drawn wagons. At dawn on July 26, Custard had the wagon train on the move over the telegraph and emigrant road, intending to push the final fifteen miles to the post at Platte Bridge. Shortly after breakfast, troops at Platte Bridge Station saw about 90 Indians on the hill a



Northern Cheyenne warrior Roman Nose was one of the most courageous, respected and feared leaders of the Plains tribes who fought back against the Americans after the massacre at Sand Creek.

COURTESY NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

The reconstructed Fort Caspar Park stands near the site of the July 26, 1865, Battle of Platte Bridge between 150 soldiers and Indian scouts and upwards of 3,000 Cheyenne and Lakota warriors. Lt. Caspar Collins, for whom the fort is named, was killed that day.

COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVES, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

couple of miles from the post. Maj. Martin Anderson ordered Lt. Caspar Collins, Sgt. Adolph Hankhammer, Sgt. Isaac Pennock and Cpl. Henry Grimm of the 11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry to take 25 men, including representatives of Companies I and K, 11th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, to leave the station and head toward Custard's oncoming wagon train.

The relief troops rode over the Platte Bridge behind Collins and were still in sight of the station when Lakota and Cheyenne Indians swooped around them, cutting off any retreat. A short fight, lasting about ten minutes, resulted in the deaths of several soldiers, including Collins.

The events of the day had not ended, however. Not long after the fight in which Collins died, Custard came over the hill with his wagons, apparently unaware of the danger. The Indians attacked the wagons in force and killed all the men with Custard, a couple had managed to escape as the attack

William Henry Jackson photographed fellow Hayden Survey member, artist S R Gifford, at the 1862 grave of Ohio Cavalryman Pvt Bennett Tribbett (who died of a sudden illness) near the Overland Trail's infamous Three Crossings of the Sweetwater River.

COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORD ADMINISTRATION NO 516855

began. Platte Bridge Station was cut off from outside help. The soldiers could not repair the telegraph line because of the constant threat of attack by the Indians.

In the aftermath, Platte Bridge Station was renamed Fort Caspar, for Lt. Caspar Collins. The Civilian Conservation Corps rebuilt Fort Caspar at the original site, and it is now a National Historic Place managed by the City of Casper

Stations along the Sweetwater

From Fort Caspar we head west to Independence Rock and Split Rock. The posts occupied by troops of the 11th Ohio stood here once; now you see only the rock formations, though at Split Rock the Handcart Ranch has rebuilt an earlier trading site, Seminoe Fort, once used to resupply Mormons and other travelers on the Oregon-California Trail.

Split Rock Station, constructed in 1859 farther west on the trail, near the landmark of the same name, was garrisoned by about 50 soldiers of the 6th Ohio in 1862, when traditionally friendly Shoshone Indians and their Bannock allies attacked stage stations along the Sweetwater River and west to Bear River Valley in present-day Idaho. They cut telegraph lines and captured livestock needed for the stage operations.

Mrs. Nellie Sun later wrote

"Early in 1862, the 1st Division of the 11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry with Colonel William Collins in command reached Fort Laramie, and was sent out to guard the stage and emigrant trains. Indians appeared near Sweetwater Station one day, seemingly on the war path. The soldiers left, but the telegraph operator remained at his station. He sent messages to operator John Friend at Split Rock. The Sweetwater operator reported to the Split Rock station that the Indians were dancing a war dance down on the meadow. Later he warned that they were coming toward the station, then they were climbing the stockade, and finally that they were coming into the station. Help was sent, but it came too late. The operator was found scalped and pinned to the ground by a peg through his mouth. The station had been burned."

Ohio troops served at other stations to the west, including Three Crossings, which was under command of Maj. John O'Ferrall. Lt. Caspar Collins served at Three Crossings in 1863, describing it as "surrounded by a palisade, varying from 12 to 15 feet high, and surmounted by a large lookout and block house that sweeps the surrounding country."

Our route now turns south to Rawlins. When Maj John O'Ferrall of Company A, 6th Ohio Cavalry (which in 1863 became the 11th Ohio), traveled in 1862 from Devil's Gate to near Elk Mountain to establish Fort Halleck, his command stopped in a gap a day's travel south from Devils Gate, where there was a spring and wood for fires. His men were drinking and, following a search of the wagons, O'Ferrall found a barrel of whiskey in one wagon, which he destroyed. When the contents flowed into the spring, historian C.C. Coutant reported, the soldiers rushed "forward with cups, canteens and camp kettles to save what they could of the whiskey." This gave the gap its name Whiskey Gap.

Overland Trail Stations

O'Ferrall and his command rode south and east, ultimately establishing Fort Halleck at a site on the Overland Trail just north of Elk Mountain. These troops, who became the 11th Ohio Cavalry while at Fort Halleck, would then push west, establishing posts along the trail to Fort Bridger.

Sage Creek Station, south of Rawlins (actually located on Miller Creek, despite the station name), was a log building approximately 25 by 60 feet with an adobe fireplace and dirt-and-pole roof. One attack took place on June 8, 1865. One soldier at the site reported. "The detachment at Sage Creek station was attacked by about 100 Indians. After one hour's severe fighting they were compelled to evacuate in consequence of a deficiency in ammunition The moment they left the station they were completely surrounded. There ensued a desperate fight; the detachment retreated

toward Pine Grove Station. The Indians followed for eight miles, killing George Bodine and Perry Stewart, wounding and capturing Orland Ducket, wounding Corp. W. H. Caldwell and Pvt. William Wilson, all of Company K, 11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry... [T]hey are doing all they can to keep open the road, but the force is inadequate to cope with the number of Indians."

Along the Overland Trail from Elk Mountain to Fort Bridger are remnants of some of these stations where the 11th Ohio stood duty. More clearly seen is the trail itself, once used by overland travelers, soldiers and Indian raiders. Although some sections of the trail are on private land and therefore inaccessible today, much of the route from Rawlins west to Rock Springs and Green River is on public land. The only fully preserved post is at Point of Rocks, just south of Interstate 80.

Our route ends at Fort Bridger, the important trading site that mountain men Jim Bridger and Louis Vasquez established in 1842. Here, like the 19th-century travelers, you'll find Bridger's Post stocked with trade goods, and you can visit the military buildings as well as the museum. ★

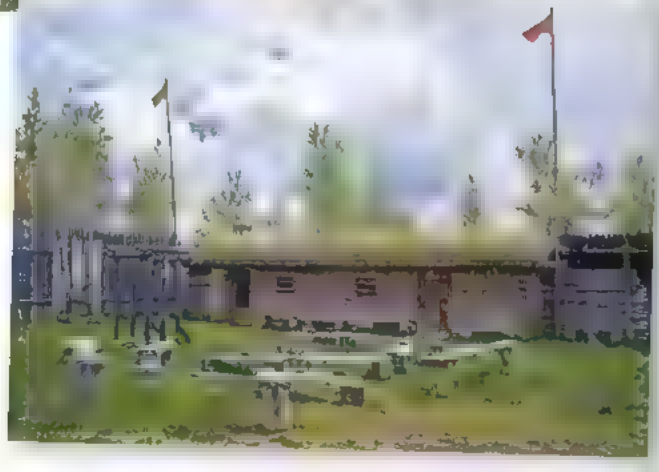
Candy Moulton is the author of *Forts, Fights, and Frontier Sites: Wyoming Historic Sites*

After the Civil War, the U.S. Cavalry protected the Union Pacific Railroad crews and soon to follow coal miners in Rock Springs. Today, visitors to the city's historic downtown can visit two coal mining monuments, including Edward J. Fraughton's bronze, *Clearing the Haul Way*.

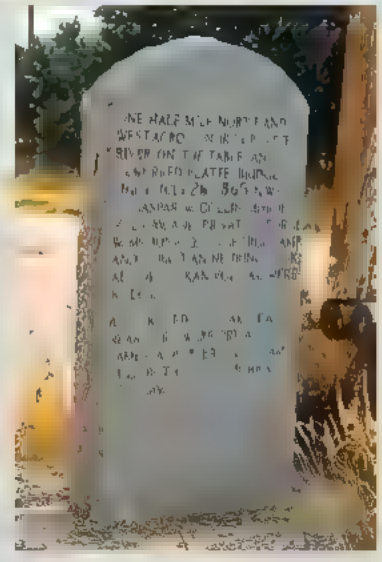
COURTESY TRAVEL WYOMING

Devil's Gate, carved by the Sweetwater River, was an important landmark on the Overland Trail used by emigrants and soldiers, west of Independence Rock. Today, the Mormon Church owns and manages it as Devil's Gate Interpretive Site, as well as the nearby Mormon Handcart Visitors Center.

PHOTOS BY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVES, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



Fort Bridger State Historic Site is a living history center along the historic Overland Trail that honors the heritage of founder Jim Bridger, and the fur traders, Mormon pioneers, Oregon trail emigrants and soldiers and Native tribes who made the fort a crossroads of history.



A headstone dedicated to the brave officer of the 11th Ohio Cavalry, Lt. Caspar Collins, explains the Battle of Platte Bridge at Fort Caspar.

COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVES, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

PLACES & EVENTS TO VISIT

Fort Kearny State Park, *Kearney, NE*, **Scotts Bluff National Monument**, *Scottsbluff/Gering, NE*, **Fort Laramie National Historic Site**, *Fort Laramie, WY*; **Fort Caspar Museum**, *Casper, WY*; **Seminoe's Fort, Handcart Ranch**, *Muddy Gap, WY*; **Carbon County Museum** *Rawlins, WY*, **Saratoga Museum**, *Saratoga, WY*, **Sweetwater County Museum** *Rock Springs, WY*; **Green River Museum**, *Green River, WY*, **Fort Bridger State Historic Site**, *Fort Bridger, WY*

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

Grub: Nick's on the Bricks, *Kearny, NE*, **FireRock Steakhouse** *Casper, WY*; **Bella's Bistro**, *Saratoga, WY*; **Rose's Lariat**, *Rawlins, WY*; **Don Pedro's Family Restaurant**, *Green River, WY*

Lodging: Oak Tree Inn, *North Platte, NE*, **Ramkota**, *Casper, WY*; **Hampton Inn**, *Green River, WY*, **Elk Mountain Hotel**, *Elk Mountain, WY*; **Wolf Hotel** *Saratoga, WY*

GOOD BOOKS, FILM & TV

Best Reads: ***Guarding the Overland Trails: The Eleventh Ohio Cavalry in the Civil War*** by Robert Huhn Jones, ***Forts, Fights & Frontier Sites: Wyoming Historic Locations*** by Candy Moulton; ***The Bridger Pass Overland Trail 1862–1869 through Colorado and Wyoming and Cross Roads at the Rawlins-Baggs Stage Road in Wyoming*** by Louise Bruning Erb, Ann Bruning Brown and Gilberta Bruning Hughes

Best Film and TV: ***Tomahawk*** (Universal, 1951); ***The Great Sioux Uprising*** (Universal, 1953); ***The Indian Fighter*** (United Artists, 1955); ***Chief Crazy Horse*** (Universal, 1955); ***Crazy Horse*** (Turner Pictures, 1996); ***Bessemer Bend Battle*** (Wyoming PBS, 1999); ***Wyoming's Hog Ranches*** (Wyoming PBS, 2003)

BY SHERRY MONAHAN

Black Bart's Epicurean Escapades

Blackberry pie at the Palace, pig's feet at the Oyster Chop House.

A slice of blackberry pie, like those being gobbled up above, cost 15 cents at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, California, according to a menu printed on May 3, 1889. Charles E. "Black Bart" (inset) had vanished by then, so quickly the stagecoach robber left behind a pound of his favorite drink—coffee.

BLACKBERRY PIE PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. BLACK BART PHOTO COURTESY WELLS FARGO BANK

Notorious for his 1880s stagecoach robberies, what did gentleman bandit and poet Black Bart eat and where?

Everyone thought San Francisco resident Charles E. "Black Bart" Boles was a sophisticated businessman who traveled California to research mining prospects.

"After his capture, Boles told officers he had often been in Marysville while on his robbery pilgrimages, but no one ever took him for a bandit," California resident W T Ellis recalled.

With his stolen money, Black Bart dressed in expensive suits and dined on delicious meals. In 1880, he lived and dined at the posh Palace Hotel on Montgomery Street, where his choice of delicious pre-made viands included consommé soup, salmon, shad and lake trout among the fish options, and entrees that ran the gamut from beef tenderloin to broiled squab, served with more than 30 vegetable choices and lobster, shrimp or potato salads. For dessert, he could choose various pies and puddings, ice cream, cheeses and Philadelphia, lemon and strawberry water ices.

The Palace also offered a cooked-to-order menu. Breakfast offerings included eggs, omelets and breads, while the rest of the day, one could dine on beef, mutton, veal, pork, lamb, ham, tripe, flounder, fish balls, terrapin, oysters, game and poultry.

Since Black Bart staked out the stagecoach route before his robberies, he often stayed at various hotels nearby. Stage stop Oroville was home to the Union Hotel, likely a place Black Bart stayed, as hotel owner D N Friesleben offered rooms and meals. The nearby Oyster Saloon and Chop House served crab, shrimp and pig's feet; it charged "by the dish from 10 cents, upwards."

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The Union also offered "reasonable" prices, reported the *Sacramento Daily Record-Union* on May 28, 1887, adding, "The dining-room is large, airy and light. The table is excellent, the service good...."

Another safe distance for Black Bart to observe his targets was the U.S. Hotel, run by Louis W. Hoops, who offered meals at 25 cents. Hoops provided guests the best the market could afford. The U.S. Hotel "...is the place to be when you visit the Gem of the Foothills. Good fare, good beds, low prices," *The Plumas National* reported on January 27, 1883.

In 1882, Mrs. Bowers from the Washoe tribe stayed at the U.S. Hotel, she was a seer. Maybe Black Bart should have visited with her and learned of his future capture. A laundry mark on a handkerchief that he left behind at a robbery landed Black Bart in San Quentin State Prison, in 1883.

The last known hotel the gentleman bandit stayed at was Visalia House in Visalia in 1888, after his release from jail. When word got out that Black Bart was in town, he fled, leaving behind his valise. Along with two pairs of cuffs and two neckties, he had stocked various food items, including crackers, sugar, pickles, a pound of coffee and cans of corned beef, lunch tongue and currant jelly.

Everyone loves pie, and the Palace served a delicious blackberry pie while Black Bart was living the good life...on someone else's dime!

Sherry Monahan has penned *The Cowboy's Cookbook*, *Mrs. Earp: Wives & Lovers of the Earp Brothers*, *California Vines, Wines & Pioneers*; *Taste of Tombstone* and *The Wicked West*. She has appeared on Fox News, History Channel and AHC.

BLACKBERRY PIE

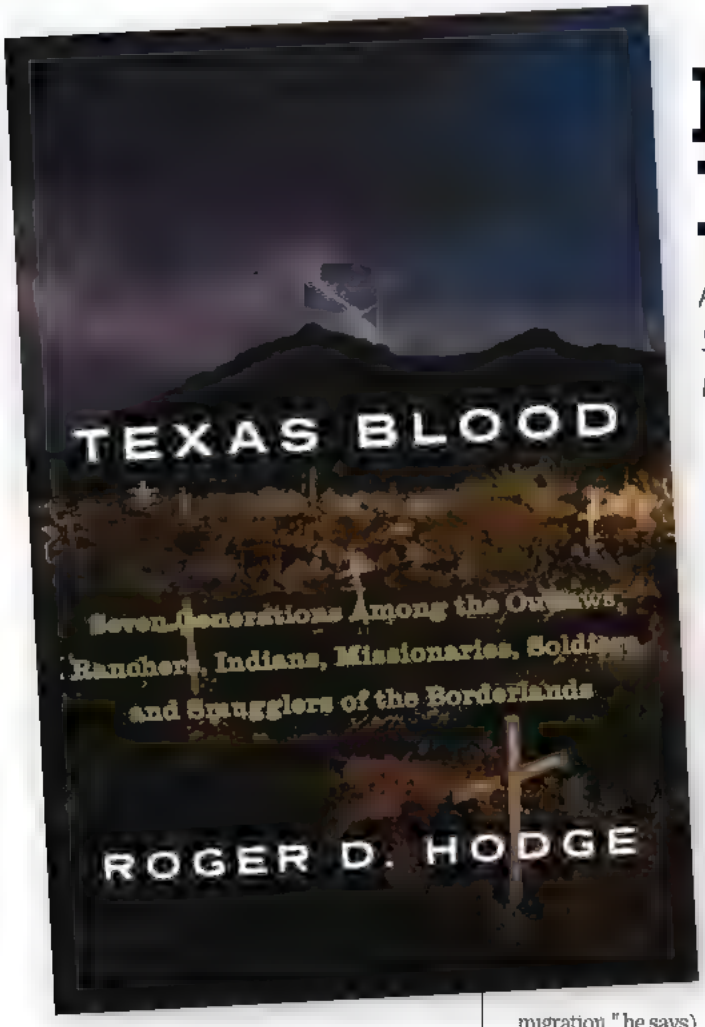
½ cup sugar
3 cups blackberries
1 tablespoon flour
2 pie crusts, unbaked
Milk

In a mixing bowl, coat the berries with sugar and flour by stirring them. Line a pie pan with one pie crust and pour in the berries. Cover with the second pie crust and brush with milk. Bake at 350°F for 35–40 minutes or until the crust is golden.

Recipe adapted from the 1872 *California Recipe Book*

WESTERN BOOKS

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK


TEXAS BLOOD
Seven Generations Among the Outlaws, Ranchers, Indians, Missionaries, Soldiers and Smugglers of the Borderlands
ROGER D. HODGE

Lone Star Legacy

An epic generational tale of Texas and the Southwest reflects on the violent border region, plus histories of Franciscan explorers and the Army in the West, a novel of the Spanish-American War, and the further adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

Four years after Philipp Meyer's multi-generational Texas novel, *The Son*, was published, and subsequently developed by the best-selling author as a series for AMC television, Brooklyn author and Texas native Roger D. Hodge has done the enigmatic Meyer one better: he has published a generational autobiography of his family's history: *Texas Blood. Seven Generations Among the Outlaws, Ranchers, Indians, Missionaries, Soldiers and Smugglers of the Borderlands* (Alfred A. Knopf, $27.95).

Hodge, who grew up a rancher's son in the hardscrabble and ever-more violent border town of Del Rio, Texas, before leaving for college in Tennessee in 1985 ("unconsciously reversing my family's long-ago westward migration," he says), has written the first major sequel to Patricia Nelson Limerick's two masterly reinterpretations of Western history—*The Legacy of Conquest. The Unbroken Past of the American West* and *Something in the Soil. Legacies and Reckonings in the New West*—and edited, with Clyde A. Milner II and Charles E. Rankin, a book of essays titled *Trails: Toward a New Western History*. Hodge's epic saga simultaneously acts as an extension

"Like all American landscapes, that of West Texas is a palimpsest of lost and vanishing lifeways."

The life of Comanche leader Quanah Parker and the rise and fall of the Comanches in Texas and the greater Southwest are central to the violent multicultural clash of people, including the author's own family, fighting, dying and surviving chronicled in the highly personal *Texas Blood*.

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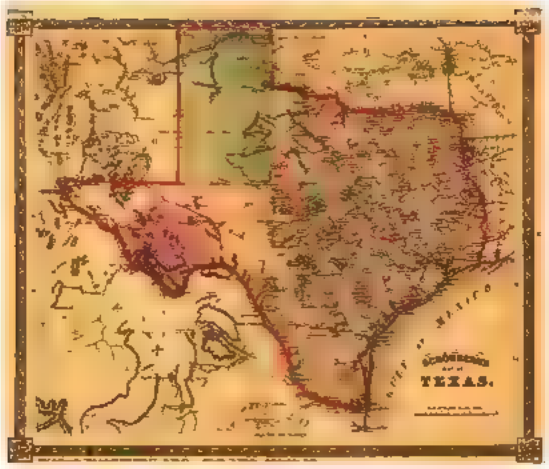

Roger D. Hodge's *Texas Blood: Seven Generations Among the Outlaws, Ranchers, Indians, Missionaries, Soldiers and Smugglers of the Borderlands* is an epic tale of the American Southwest with his hometown of Del Rio, Texas, which sits both on the border and north banks of the Rio Grande, as both place and metaphor for all that is good, bad and misunderstood in American Western history.

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of Limerick's New Western history philosophy. In her *Trails* essay titled "What on Earth is New Western History?," she writes, "...the most fundamental mission of the New Western History is to widen the range and increase the vitality of the search for meaning in the western past."

In *Texas Blood*, Hodge effortlessly blends his personal life-experiences, family genealogy and American history into the perfect synthesis of Old West and New Western history. "Before the late nineteenth century, when the Plains Indians were finally pacified—that is, conquered and exiled to reservations in Oklahoma—west of the Balcones was the Comanche empire; east toward the gulf lay the Anglo settlement in thin bands along the rivers. And as I was eventually to discover, that fault zone also happened to trace, with uncanny accuracy, a partial map of my ancestors' nineteenth-century peregrinations."

Will Roger Hodge's blend of history, family legacy and personal musings and criticisms on the current state of the American West effectively change a reader's mind about what the West was, is and might be? I cannot make any assumptions, but if the buyer is not philosophically inspired to self-contemplation and reckoning of one's own personal—and familial—history in the West, then Hodge's passionate eulogy of Steinbeckian proportion is beyond the reader's comprehension. And, like authors Cormac McCarthy, Max Evans, Larry McMurtry, William Least Heat Moon, Edward Abbey, Colin Fletcher, John Steinbeck and J. Frank Dobie, who have found inspiration in the past and present to muse on the West before them, Hodge shares his observations with a keen sense of place. "Like all American landscapes, that of West Texas is a palimpsest of lost and vanishing lifeways. Yet the aura of a potent mythology lies heavily upon the land and exerts a fascination that defies easy analysis; it draws new blood, new life, to refresh the thorny countryside."

The former editor of *Oxford American* and *Harper's Magazine*, Hodge's extended family saga of Texas and the West follows a tradition of American travel writing that has its roots as far back as Alexis de Tocqueville's *On Democracy in America* and as recent as Rinker Buck's *The Oregon Trail. A New American Journey. Texas Blood* should inspire readers to read or reread recent and past classics of the West that bridge eras and genres, including Paul Andrew Hutton's *The Apache Wars*, John Boessnecker's *Texas Ranger: The Epic Life of Frank Hamer, the Man Who Killed Bonnie and Clyde*, S.C. Gwynne's *Empire of the Summer Moon*, Alan Weisman and Jay Dusard's *La Frontera. The United States Border with Mexico*, Tom Miller's *On the Border*, William Least Heat Moon's *Blue Highways* and J. Frank Dobie's *A Vaquero of the Brush Country: The Life and Times of John D. Young*. While Hodge's writings will never be equated with the literary lyricism of Laura Ingalls Wilder, Wallace Stegner or Mari Sandoz, his honest and self-reflective tale of his family's legacy in the West will endure and inspire awe, just like his beloved—and bedeviled—Big Bend of the Rio Grande.

—Stuart Rosebrook

ROUGH DRAFTS

In early August, I was an invited guest speaker at the **Great Western Cattle Trail Association National Conference** in Bandera, Texas. While in Bandera, I enjoyed the down-home hospitality that makes the "Cowboy Capital of the World" a top Texas getaway destination. Fellow speakers at the convention included National Park Service's National Trails System historian Frank Norris, Sylvia Gahn Mahoney, author of ***Finding the Great Western Trail***, and Bruce Shackelford, author of ***The Wests of Texas: Cattle Ranching Entrepreneurs***.

While in Bandera, don't miss the opportunity to have a meal on Main Street in the John Wayne Room at the **Old Spanish Trail Restaurant**, founded in 1921, tour the famed **Frontier Times Museum** shop for some treasures in the historic mercantile **Western Trail Antique & Marketplace**, and listen to and dance to some great country music at **Arkie Blue's Silver Dollar Saloon**.

A great place to hang your hat for a long weekend and catch up on your reading about Texas cattle trail history (when not out riding horses, shopping dining and dancing) is the **Flying L Hill Country Resort**, which recently celebrated its 70th anniversary.

And if you need to know anything about Bandera, don't hesitate to contact the Bandera County Convention & Visitor Center's dynamic executive director, Patricia Moore, at 830-796-3045, *director@banderacowboycapital.com* and/or ***BanderaCowboyCapital.com***. I promise after just one visit to this great Texas town, you'll make Bandera an annual destination.

Stuart Rosebrook

Robert A. Kittle's *Franciscan Frontiersmen: How Three Adventurers Charted the West* provides readers insight into the accomplishments of the first Franciscans in the West, including Padre Juan Crespí's trailblazing overland coastal trek to San Francisco and the Greater Bay Area in 1769

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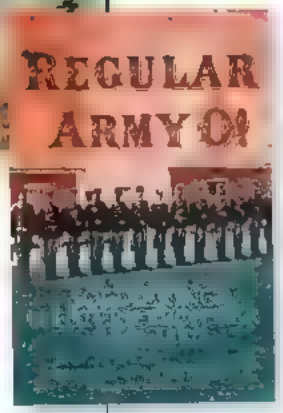
FRANCISCAN TRAILBLAZERS

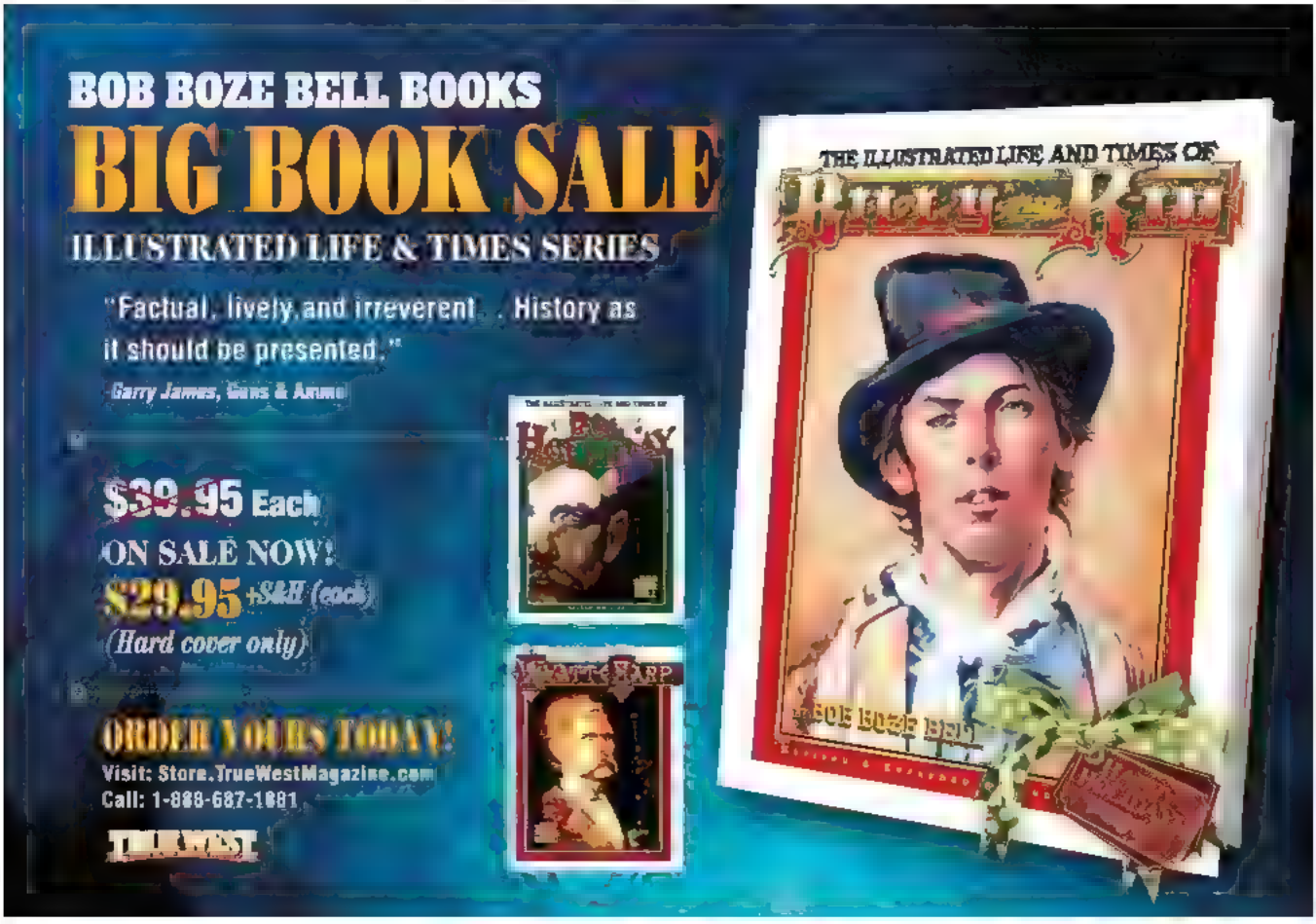
For many the mention of Spanish padres evokes images of bucolic missions stretching far and wide across the Borderlands. Indeed, priests from various Catholic religious orders established these well-known religious-socio-economic centers, but they also played many other roles. Robert A. Kittle's *Franciscan Frontiersmen: How Three Adventurers Charted the West* (University of Oklahoma Press, $29.95) underscores this fact by tracing the explorations, mapmaking and chronicling of Friars Pedro Font, Juan Crespí and Francisco Garcés. Drawing on many scattered published accounts, Kittle succinctly assembles diverse sources into a concise narrative to "come to grips with the question of whether the Franciscans should be remembered as saints or sinners."

—*John P. Langellier, author of* El Presidio de San Francisco



THE SOLDIERS' WEST

Douglas C. McChristian's *Regular Army O!: Soldiering on the Western Frontier, 1865–1891* (University of Oklahoma Press, $40) has breadth and depth, a veritable opus



Douglas C. McChristian's *Regular Army O!: Soldiering on the Western Frontier, 1865 1891* is an exhaustive work on the day to day life of the U.S. Army soldier in the post Civil War West, such as these Sixth Cavalrymen at Camp Grant, Arizona Territory, in the early 1880s

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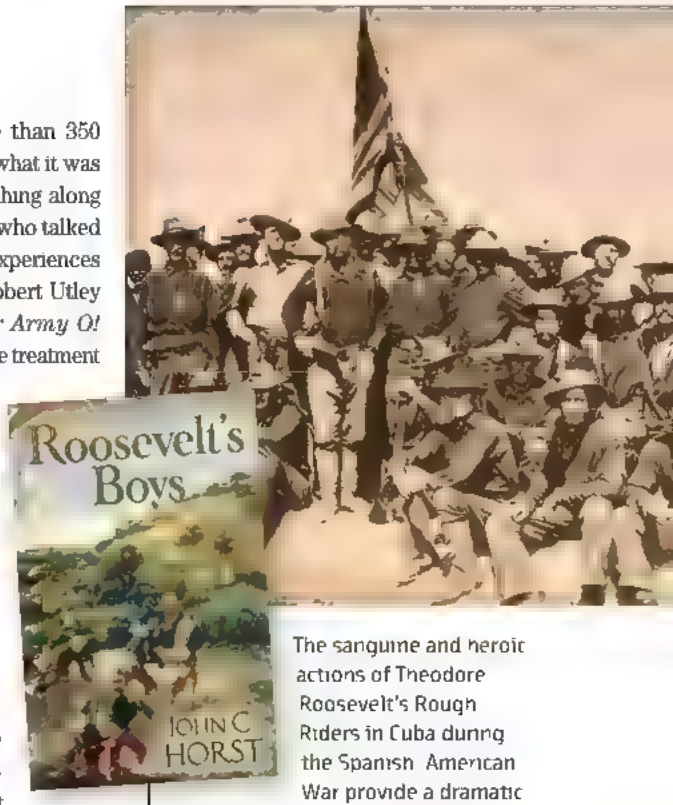
that covers soldiering on the Western frontier at the posts and in the field for the majority of the second half of the 19th century. Building on all the great works of the past in detail and in broad terms, McChristian brings forth, with a lifetime of research and insight, more than 350 diaries, letters, etc., to reveal what it was like to be in the saddle, marching along and in camp with the soldiers who talked about and jotted down their experiences at the end of their day. As Robert Utley says in the forward, *Regular Army O!* "will likely stand as the definitive treatment on the subject."

—Jay Van Orden, author of Geronimo's Surrender: The 1886 C.S. Fly Photographs

CUBAN AFFAIR

John Horst's *Roosevelt's Boys* (Five Star Publishing $25.95) is a thoughtful, well-told story of Arizona cowboys caught up in the great adventure in Cuba during the Spanish-American War. Also an account of the nurses from the East who volunteered to care for the Rough Rider wounded, the book might have been named "Roosevelt's



The sanguine and heroic actions of Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders in Cuba during the Spanish-American War provide a dramatic backdrop for John Horst's novel *Roosevelt's Boys*

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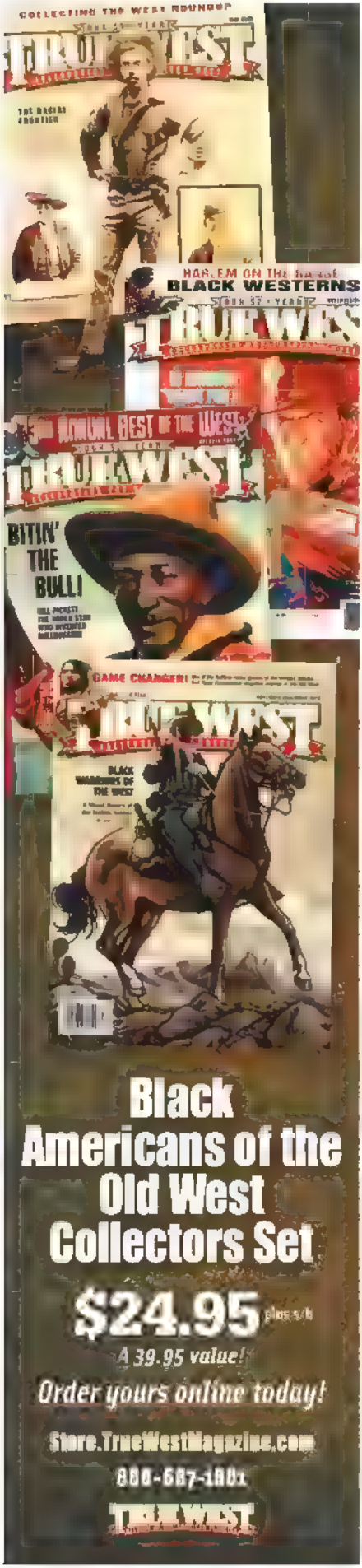


WESTERN

TUCSON AUTHOR INSPIRED BY THE LITERARY WEST

As a youngster, Leo W Banks watched too many TV and movie Westerns. The summer before entering Boston College High School, the Jesuits sent out a reading list that included Jack Schaefer's *Shane*, and that sealed it. He was hooked

Banks has spent his working life as a journalist in Arizona. Whenever possible, he returned to his first love, the West, the frontier, our unique Amer.can story. He has covered these topics for numerous publications, includ ng the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*, *True West* and *Arizona Highways*, which also published four of his books of Old West history.

His latest work is a novel titled *Double Wide*, a contemporary mystery set in Arizona, which critics are calling "a rollicking page-turner" and "classic crime in its best new clothes."

Banks recommends five books essential for every Western library

❶ ***The Shootist*** (Glendon Swarthout Doubleday) Every time I read a novel about the West, I think maybe this is the one that tops *The Shootist*—but noth ng ever has. The characters in this story of a dying gunfighter n El Paso in 1901 stand up and sing. The book is confidently written, funny, true and touching, especially the relationship between protagon st J B Books and Mrs Rogers, the boardinghouse proprietor

❷ ***Son of the Morning Star*** (Evan Connell, Macmillan): Fine books have been written about Custer and the Little Big Horn, but this stands above. Connell wrote in lyrical prose and had a real gift for storytelling. After back surgery years ago, I picked up *Morning Star*, as I do periodically, and Connell got me again. I got so caught up in it, and ticked off at Reno, that it hampered my recovery

❸ ***The Ox-Bow Incident*** (Walter Van Tilburg Clark, Random House) A mob hangs three men falsely accused of murder and cattle-rustling Their leader pistol-whips his son when he intervenes to stop the calamity t happens anyway and the sheriff covers it up The son hangs himself and the leader fal s on h s cava ry sword Not many heroes here, but *Ox-Bow* offers a hard ook at vio ence, cru ty and just ce on the frontier

❹ ***Shane*** (Jack Schaefer, Houghton M fflin Harcourt) "Straight and superb, he was silhouetted against the doors and the patch of n ght above them." That's Shane, as seen by Bob Starrett, the young narrator Rancher Luke Fletcher threatens to run off homesteaders until the "nder from nowhere" arrives to dispense ,ustice Good guys and bad guys, simp e and beautiful, with a s ightly dark undercurrent "H s eyes seemed haunted in the shadow of the hat's brim."

❺ ***All The Pretty Horses*** (Cormac McCarthy, Alfred A. Knopf) The vo ce is assured and authentic as McCarthy leads us into Mexico with 16-year-old John Grady Co.e, who wants to cowboy At publ cation in 1992, the book seemed entirely new, a literary lightning bolt that won the National Book Award Other writers finish *Horses* with a mournful sigh, wondering, "How could I ever write anyth ng so beautiful?"

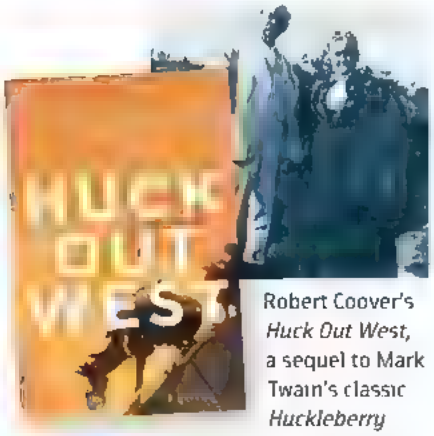
Boys and Girls." Some of the most touching episodes involve the love affairs between the Arizonans and the girls they left at home and between the nurses and the soldiers, both wounded and well. Combat scenes are gripping, especially action against enemy snipers. Col. Roosevelt is often among his men and women, a caring commander who is approachable and close to his charges. It's a page-turner from a master at historical fiction.

—Harlan Hague, author of A Place for Mei Lin

TWAIN REDUX

Robert Coover tackles the impossible in *Huck Out West* (W.W. Norton, $26.95), a sequel to Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* that puts Huck, Tom Sawyer, Becky Thatcher and ex-slave Jim in Dakota Territory in 1876. Huck, who has already done just about everything a fictional Westerner can do, runs afoul of General Hard Ass (aka George Custer). Coover, known for being unorthodox and anti-everything, elicits an occasional smile, but his use of dialect (of which Twain was the master) proves annoying. Worse, though, is Coover's malevolent treatment of Tom and Becky. Would Twain be seething? Twain himself once started a sequel that had Huck and Tom among the Indians, but showed the good sense to shelve that project. Coover should have followed suit.

—Johnny D. Boggs, author of The Kansas City Cowboys



Robert Coover's *Huck Out West*, a sequel to Mark Twain's classic *Huckleberry Finn*, takes Twain's fictional characters Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn and Becky Sawyer, who Twain (above, left) based on his childhood friend, Anna Laura (Elizabeth) Hawkins Frazer (above, right).

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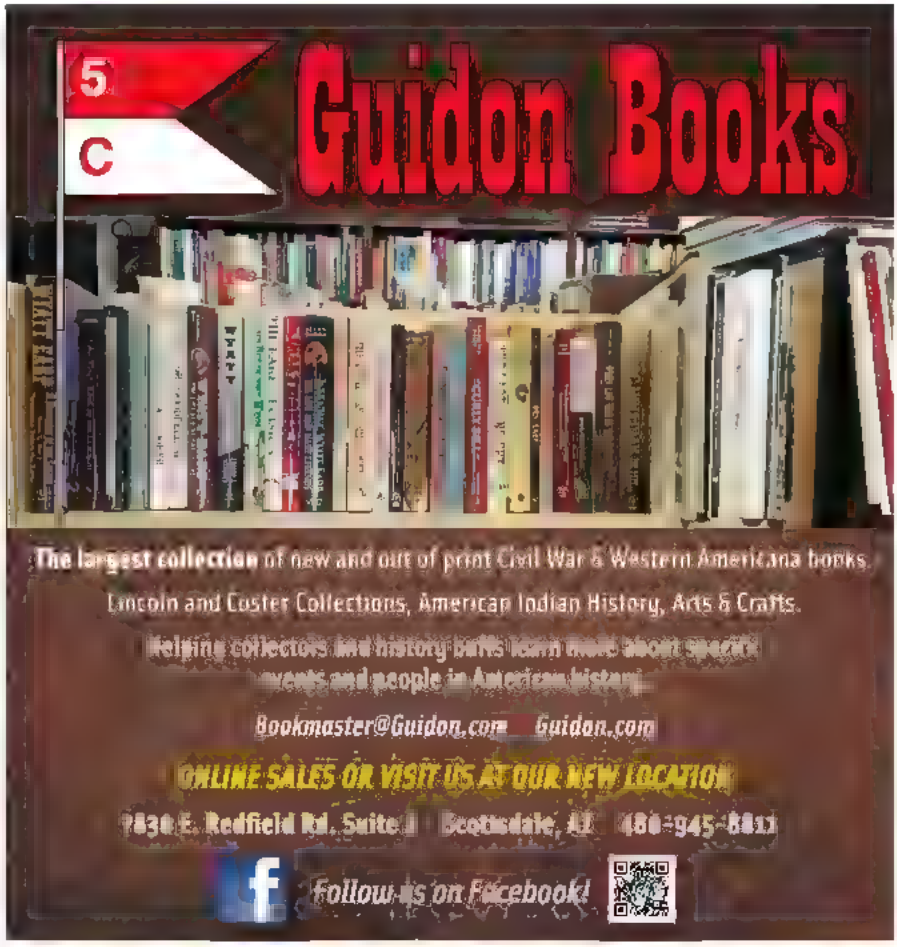
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WESTERN MOVIES

BY HENRY C. PARKE

Solitary, Singular Sam Shepard

The playwright and actor understood the cowboy life offered the best tests for civilization.

Sam Shepard had "Western" written all over him, and he looked to the American West to inspire him, whether as an actor or a playwright. "... there's more drama that goes down in a rodeo than one hundred plays you can go to see. It's a real confrontation, a real thing going on," he told *American Theatre* in April 1984. "...I've been in a few rodeos, and the first team roping that I won gave me more of a feeling of accomplishment and pride of achievement than I ever got winning the Pulitzer Prize. At the same time, I'm glad that the plays are successful and that they do something to people."

SAM SHEPARD AS PEA EYE PARKER IN 1995'S *STREETS OF LAREDO* COURTESY CBS

Sam Shepard died July 27, 2017, at the age of 73, after a hard-fought battle with A.L.S. His understated, natural style recalled actor Gary Cooper—both were movie-star handsome and exuded effortless self-confidence and masculinity.

"He's a great man, a natural man, which is rare.... I've had romances with what you'd call famous men, and none compare to Sam in terms of maleness," Shepard's romantic partner for 27 years, Jessica Lange, told *Vanity Fair* in 1991.

His chivalry touched this magazine personally, when Shepard asked the publisher's permission before calling what would become one of his most-performed plays *True West*.

Much admired as an actor, often described as the greatest playwright of his generation, Shepard won the Pulitzer Prize for *The Buried Child*, in 1979, and was nominated twice more. As an actor, he was nominated for an Oscar for his performance in 1983's *The Right Stuff* and for an Emmy for 1999's *Dash and Lilly*. In fact, over his career, he won or was nominated for just about every award a playwright or an actor could receive.

His was not the life one might have predicted for a former ranch hand, rodeo cowboy and Rock band drummer who spent his one formal college year studying agriculture at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California. His parents were farmers and teachers in Illinois. His father had been a bomber pilot during WWII, flying numerous raids over Italy. Tragically, his war experiences left him an alcoholic and a broken man. The explosiveness of Shepard's family dynamic fueled his plays. When Shepard turned 30, he already had 30 plays produced.

Best known to Westerns fans as an actor, Shepard did not take that role seriously until he was befriended by fellow farmboy and iconic writer-director of 1973's *Badlands*, Terrence Malick. "I was totally devoted to writing at that point," Shepard

Our personal favorite frontier West portrayal by Sam Shepard was his role as the real life Frank James in 2007's *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*.

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said, adding, "I was running a little ranch up in northern California."

Malick was writing *Days of Heaven*, a story set in the early 20th century, about a poor migrant farm worker (played by Richard Gere) who convinces his lady love (Brooke Adams) to marry their wealthy, but dying, employer to inherit his fortune. Malick offered Shepard the role of the doomed rancher.

"I said, 'Why not?' I rented a Ford Mustang and drove to Alberta, Canada, and that was it," Shepard recalled.

One of the most physically beautiful movies ever made, it turned the three leads into stars.

Although modern and sophisticated—Shepard did much of his writing in New York City and London—something about his looks suited historical stories. He would play many characters in many time periods, but he always returned to the American West. His understanding and respect for that world, and its people, informed all of his work.

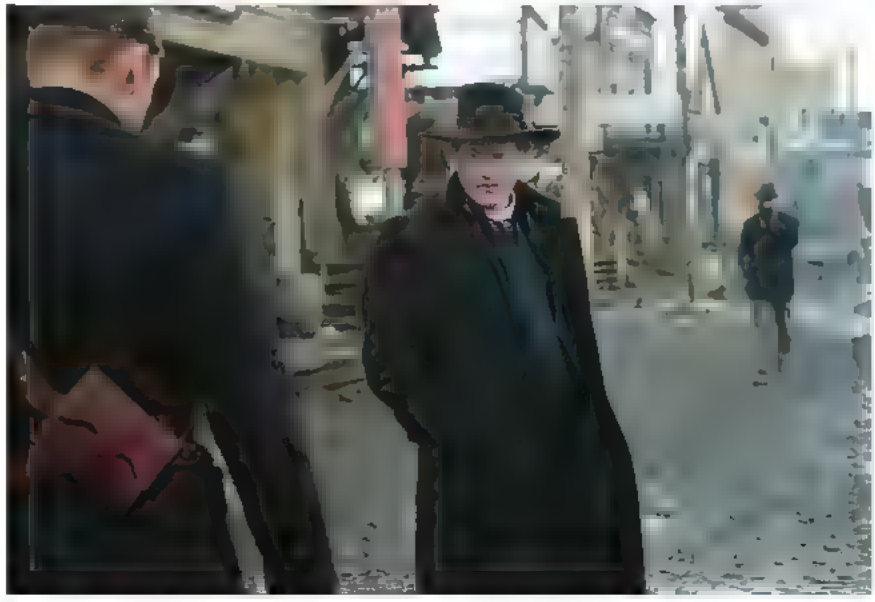
"This notion of the cowboy and of the West," he said recently, "and this solitary character, this person who was able to fend for himself, in spite of everything else, to be self-sufficient. it's a very important thing, which gets more and more lost as we move into our idea of civilization. We don't have that quality anymore; we don't have that way of testing ourselves."

Whether in a lead or supporting role, his presence in a Western lent it authenticity. He was endearing as Pea-Eye Parker in the 1995 sequel to *Lonesome Dove*, *Streets of Laredo*. That same year, he played Tarnell, cowhand buddy to Tommy Lee Jones's Hewey Calloway in the Jones written-directed feature *The Good Old Boys*. Five years later, Shepard played the sympathetic lawyer in *All the Pretty Horses*.

In 2006, in the Western Action-Comedy *Bandidas*, Shepard played Mr. Buck, a retired bank robber coaching two ladies, played by Penélope Cruz and Salma Hayek, in his former trade.

The frontier West even inspired Shepard and wife O-Lan Jones to name their son Jesse, after outlaw Jesse James, in 1970. Shepard went on to play Jesse James's brother Frank in 2007's under-appreciated *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*. Though at 64, Shepard was 25 years older than the real-life Frank, his performance was excellent. His sober distrust of Ford made him easily the smartest guy in the bunkhouse.

In the 1999 Fantasy Western *Purgatory*, Shepard is the gunless lawman in the town of Refuge, a waiting place for deceased



Sam Shepard's final Western set in the frontier was *Klondike*, about the Yukon gold rush during the late 1890s, a miniseries that appeared on Discovery Channel in 2014.

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Westerners whose final destination is not yet determined. His character may be called Sheriff Forrest, but he died holding aces and eights.

His final Western lead was in 2011's *Blackthorn*. Living in Bolivia, where the movie was filmed, James Blackthorn (Shepard) is actually Butch Cassidy, who survived the shoot-out that killed his partner. Now an old man, he decides to head home, with the assistance of a young robber (Eduardo Noriega).

"Sam's voice was very singular. It was very distinctive, like all great writers," recalls Tracy Letts, who wrote the Pulitzer-winning *August: Osage County* that inspired the 2013 film that Shepard acted in as the patriarch, in an interview with PBS. "And he synthesized a lot of different elements—European avant-garde, Rock 'n' Roll, cowboy movies, poetry and a working-class sensibility. He synthesized all of that, and when it came out in his writing, it was such a new and exciting and individual and true voice."

The voice will live on.

DVD REVIEW

DUEL AT DIABLO

(KINO LORBER; $19.95) Director Ralph Nelson followed *Requiem for a Heavyweight* with this complex, unflinching Marvin H. Albert story in 1966. Ex-scout Remsberg (James Garner), who is hunting his Comanche wife's killer, and remount supplier Toller (Sidney Poitier) reluctantly help a U.S. Cavalry troop and their lieutenant (Bill Travers) move guns across Apache territory. In the process, they rescue a woman (Bibi Anderson), whose husband (Dennis Weaver) doesn't want her back since the Apaches have had her. The stable brawl alone is worth the price of admission.

Henry C. Parke is a screenwriter based in Los Angeles, California, who blogs about Western movies, TV, radio and print news. *HenrysWesternRoundup.Blogspot.com*

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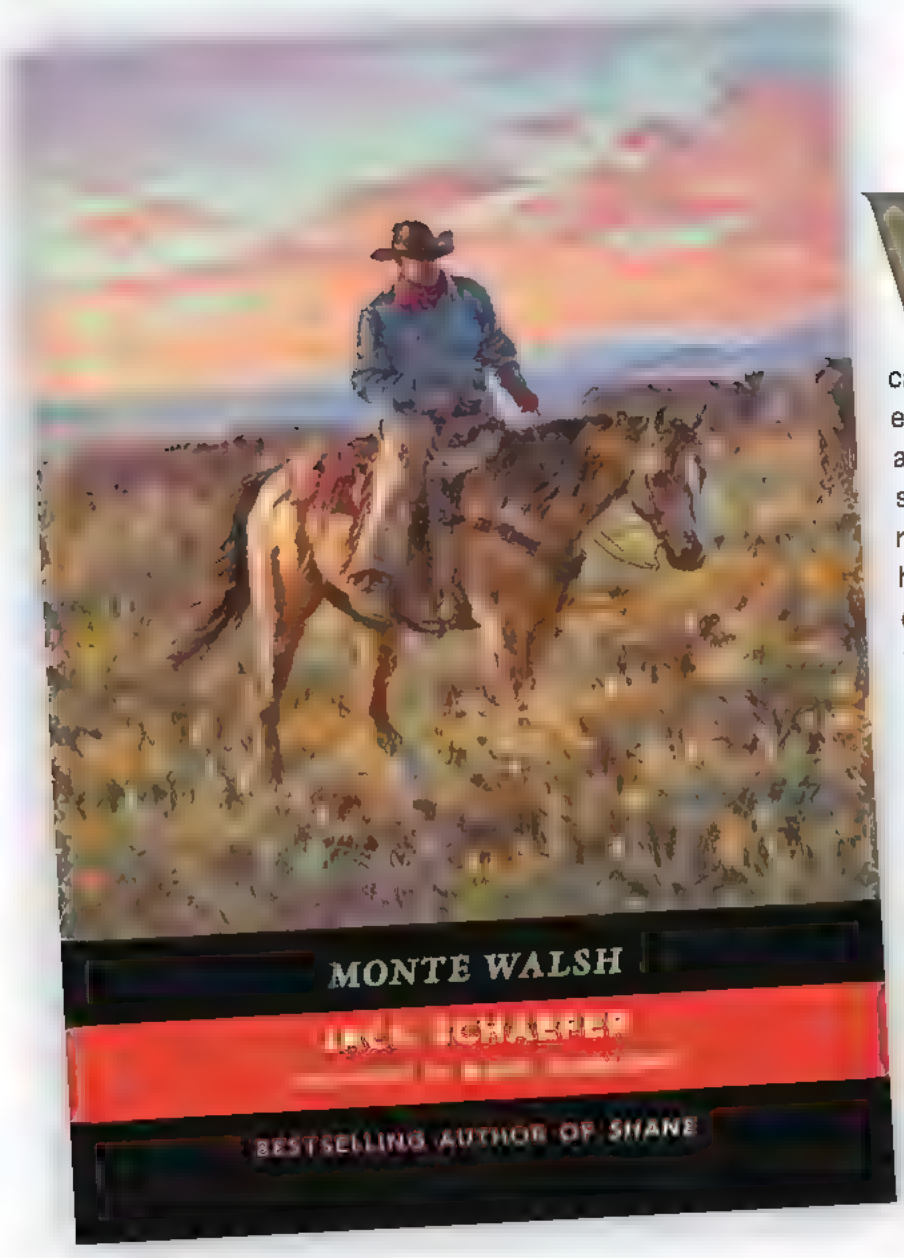
BY STUART ROSEBROOK

LOCKED AND LOADED

Sharing tales that range from six-guns to cinema, publishers of Western history and fiction aimed high and hit the bull's-eye in 2017.



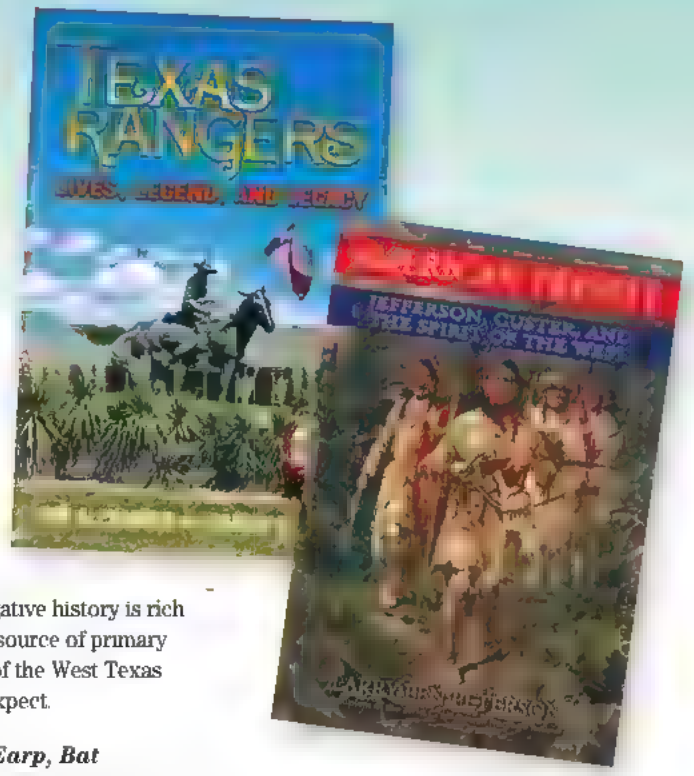
With a new foreword by New Mexico historian Marc Simmons, the University of New Mexico Press has republished Jack Schaefer's classic, *Monte Walsh*, which many believe was his best novel

Western history and fiction publishers have had an outstanding year across all genres and categories. With the growth in electronic and audiobooks, as well as in self-publishing and Internet sales in new and used books, readers, collectors and listeners have more choices and more opportunity to read, learn and relax with a Western-genre book. As we approach the end-of-the year holiday season, I offer our *True West* readers a review and sampling of Western books from the year that will satisfy the most particular interests as you consider gift-giving to loved ones—or even to yourself!

Stuart Rosebrook, *True West*'s senior editor and Western books editor, is a big fan of local bookstores for Old West books, new and used, and, when traveling, always stops in small-town bookshops in search of a lost treasure to add to his library

Big 2017 Western History Books Not to Miss

In 2017, publishers of Western history, from New York, New York, to Norman, Oklahoma, released a salvo of great books that will satisfy even the most particular interests of Old West history aficionados.



American Trinity: Jefferson, Custer, and the Spirit of the West by Larry Len Peterson (Sweetgrass Books)

Peterson's latest comprehensive history of the West should be considered one of the best Western history books published in 2017

Autumn of the Black Snake: The Creation of the U.S. Army and the Invasion that Opened the West by William Hogeland (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

Hogeland's pre-Louisiana Purchase history of the U.S. Army and its role in the expansion of the United States into the "original West" is a must-read.

Blood Brothers: The Story of the Strange Friendship between Sitting Bull and Buffalo Bill by Deanne Stillman (Simon & Schuster)

Stillman's dual biography provides a greater understanding of the showman's life and friendship with his esteemed Sioux friend, Sitting Bull.

Cattle Kingdom: The Hidden History of the Cowboy West by Christopher Knowlton (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Economist-turned-historian Knowlton has written one of the finest histories of the rise and fall of the trail-driving drover and the great cattle empires

Death on the Lonely Llano Estacado: The Assassination of J.W. Jarrott, a Forgotten Hero by Bill Neal (University of North Texas Press)

Neal's latest investigative history is rich in detail from a vast resource of primary materials, which fans of the West Texas author have come to expect.

Dodge City: Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, and the Wickedest Town in the American West by Tom Clavin (St. Martin's Press)

New York historian Clavin's latest big history book recounts the Wild West days of Dodge City and the cast of historical characters that made it famous. Readers will be counting the days for Clavin's next major work on the Old West.

Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann (Doubleday)

Grann's research reveals the tragic outcome of oil, money and corruption on the Osage Indian Nation in Oklahoma in the 1920s.

Regular Army O!: Soldiering on the Western Frontier, 1865-1891 by Douglas C. McChristian (University of Oklahoma Press)

McChristian must be honored for his incredibly detailed one-volume history of Army life in the post-Civil War West that's rich in primary source material.

The Best Land Under Heaven: The Donner Party in the Age of Manifest Destiny by Michael Wallis (Liveright)

Wallis's recasting of the Donner Party—and the story of the survivors—is a metaphor for the overland emigrant experience in 1840s America.

The Republic for Which It Stands: The United States During Reconstruction and the Gilded Age, 1865-1896 by Richard White (Oxford University Press)

Readers of White's first major American history volume since 2012 will quickly realize that the Stanford historian is one of the nation's finest.

The Shawnee-Arbuckle Cattle Trail, 1867-1870: The Predecessor of the Chisholm Trail to Abilene, Kansas by Gary & Margaret Kraisinger (Mennonite Press)

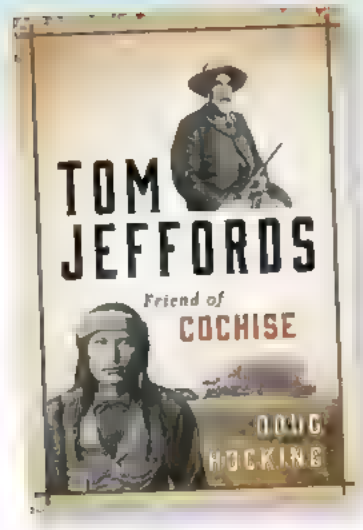
The release of the first comprehensive research on the Shawnee-Arbuckle Cattle Trail, and how it predated the world-renowned Chisholm, is timed perfectly for the 150th anniversary of the Chisholm Trail.

Texas Rangers: Lives, Legend, and Legacy by Bob Alexander and Donaly E. Brice (University of North Texas Press)

Two of the most preeminent Texas Ranger historians have teamed up to create the most comprehensive one-volume history of the illustrious Lone Star lawmen ever published.

Double-Fisted, Six-Gun Action

From mass-market New York publisher Kensington to Las Vegas's Wolfpack Publishing, Old West novels are still delivering classic tales of law and order, outlaws and shady ladies. Here are 12 Old West novels from 11 different publishers released in 2017.



Texas Blood: Seven Generations Among the Outlaws, Ranchers, Indians, Missionaries, Soldiers, and Smugglers of the Borderlands by Roger D. Hodge (Alfred A. Knopf)

In one of the big Western books of the year, Hodge weaves a personal story of family and travel into a dramatic history of Texas and the Southwest.

Thunder in the Mountains: Chief Joseph, Oliver Otis Howard, and the Nez Perce War by Daniel Sharfstein (W W. Norton)

An exemplary, ground-breaking dual-biography of two of the most important leaders in Western American history

Tom Jeffords: Friend of Cochise by Doug Hocking (TwoDot)

The first published biography of the famed Indian agent-friend of Cochise is a must-read for anyone interested in Apache-American history in the Southwest.

Bonus Book:

Yale University Press has just published the latest, single-volume history/textbook of Western history: ***The American West: A New Interpretive History, Second Edition*** by Robert V. Hine, John Mack Faragher and Jon T Coleman.

It's a must-read for historians and students of Western American history

Hell Hath No Fury by Charles G. West (Kensington)

West, a fan-favorite for over two decades, introduces his new John Hawk Series with his first Western for Kensington, *Hell Hath No Fury*.

Journey: A Western by Stephen H. Foreman (Skyhorse Publishing)

Author and screenwriter Foreman's third novel, *Journey: A Western*, is a tightly written adventure set in 1830s New Mexico with a mysterious, young heroine.

Louis L'Amour's Lost Treasures, Volume 1: Unfinished Manuscripts, Mysterious Stories, and Lost Notes from One of the World's Most Popular Novelists by Louis L'Amour with Beau L'Amour (Bantam Books)

For first-time Louis L'Amour readers or lifelong fans, *Louis L'Amour's Lost Treasures* is guaranteed to be an instant Western classic.

Revenge of the Damned by Larry Martin (Wolfpack Publishing)

Popular Western writer Martin's latest entry in his Wolfpack Publishing Montana Western Series, *Revenge of the Damned*, is available via Amazon as an e-book or paperback.

Savage Country: A Novel by Robert Olmstead (Algonquin Books)

Novelist, short-story author and Ohio Wesleyan professor Olmstead returns to the West in his eighth book, set in the violent post-Civil War plains of Kansas and Oklahoma.

The Ballad of Black Bart by Loren Estleman (Forge)

Western Writer Hall of Fame member Estleman has returned to one of his favorite genres, the Western, with *The Ballad of Black Bart*, which is sure to thrill his fans.

The Rusted Sun by Michael Zimmer (Five Star)

In *The Rusted Sun*, award-winning author Zimmer delivers the well-researched action his fans have come to expect from his Five Star Westerns.

The Vengeance of Mothers: The Journals of Margaret Kelly & Molly McGill: A Novel by Jim Fergus (St. Martin's Press)

An incredibly daring, original novel, Fergus returns to the theme of his best-selling novel *One Thousand White Women*, the fictionalized "what if" drama of the U.S. government's "Brides for Indians" program.

The Wolves of El Diablo by Eric Red (Short Scary Tales Publications)

Readers of director-screenwriter Eric Red's latest Western-horror novel will rediscover an Old West genre that is an international fan-favorite in print and film.

World, Chase Me Down: A Novel by Andrew Hilleman (Penguin)

The debut of first-time novelist Nebraska native Hilleman is based on a true story that will remind readers of Charles Portis's *True Grit*.

Bonus Books:

Monte Walsh by Jack Schaefer, Foreword by Marc Simmons (University of New Mexico Press)

In 2017, the University of New Mexico Press has re-issued nine of Schaefer's classic novels and short-story collections, including *Monte Walsh*, which many consider one of the best Westerns ever written.

Wild West by Elmer Kelton (Forge)

Eleven Kelton short stories published together for the first time will be an instant classic.

NEW FROM TRUE WEST BOOKS

The Illustrated Life and Times of Wild Bill Hickok: The First Gunfighter by Bob Boze Bell (*True West* Books)

True West's Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell has just published *The Illustrated Life and Times of Wild Bill Hickok: The First Gunfighter*, the first new volume in his Illustrated Life and Times Gunfighter Series since 2004.

The highly collectible series also includes illustrated biographies of Billy the Kid, Doc Holliday and Wyatt Earp.

According to historian Paul Andrew Hutton, "The 'Prince of Pistoleers' meets the 'Prince of Western History' in this much anticipated new book from Bob Boze Bell—chock full of the great art, rare photos, authoritative history, and that unique dose of Boze whimsy that we have come to expect. More fun than any history book should be and a must-have addition to every Western collection."

LEE MARTIN

THE LAST WILD RIDE

In 1877, Sam Jeffries, a shot up, beat up, bitter ex-lawman finds himself roped into escorting Lorena Ramsey, a fugitive widow, and her mute son on a wild ride south. Aided by old scouts and a troublesome, lecherous gambler, they fight their way down through Colorado's mesa country, across the flooded Grand River, and through the badlands of New Mexico Territory as they head for Texas. All the while, a Ramsey lynch mob led by her vengeful ex mother-in-law is hot on their trail.

Lee Martin's THE LAST WILD RIDE: *"The story is full of suspense and adventure. It is an easy, fast read that I strongly recommend. It will keep your interest, encouraging you to keep reading to find out what happens next." Lowell F. Volk, Author of the Luke Taylor and Trevor Lane series*

— ***TRUE WEST***, *July 2017*

GRANT CONSPIRACY
Wake of the Civil War

A young lawyer, an angry young newspaper woman, and a black veteran stumble on an evil law firm's plot to assassinate former President Grant, not for the Civil War but for Black Friday, as Grant tours the Rockies by wagon in 1880.

Screenwriter and author Lee Martin's history tale of a planned assassination attempt against former President Ulysses S. Grant is ready for central casting and a sequel. In the meantime, order a copy of Martin's frolicking Western tale with a great cast of characters, including the war-hero—turned lawyer Matt Tyler, and femme-fatale newspaper woman Jennifer White and ex-Confederates out for revenge."

— **Stuart Rosebrook,** Senior Editor, *True West* Magazine

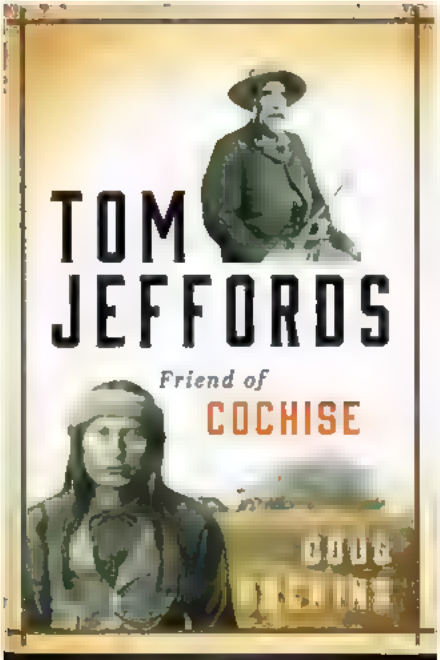
COMING SOON!

Lee Martin's next Western novel: *FURY AT CROSS CREEK*

"In 1876, when Laredo learns his true identity, he becomes a living target as he and the scout who raised him charge north into a deadly feud that had killed his family and soon find themselves protecting a young woman rancher under siege by the same ruthless clan."

Don't miss Lee's *SHADOW ON THE MESA*, from which Lee wrote the highly rated movie with Kevin Sorbo.

Look for all of Lee Martin's 20 Western Novels at AMAZON or wherever books are sold. Many can also be found on audio at Books In Motion.



True West Magazine says,
"Tom Jeffords, Friend of Cochise
is an instant Classic."

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that short but important time period of our
history. The real deal!"
—Amazon Reader Review

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through your favorite book seller.

WesternCattleTrail.net

Western History Extravaganza

If you love reading Western American history, 2017 is a banner year. Here are 11 works from 11 different publishers that represent the diversity of fascinating subject matter and topics currently being investigated by Western writers.

A Cowboy of the Pecos by Patrick Dearan (Lone Star Books)

A Land Apart: The Southwest and the Nation in the Twentieth Century by Flannery Burke (University of Arizona Press)

Bodie: Good Times & Bad by Nicholas Clapp, Photography by Will Furman (Sunbelt Publications)

Dodge City and the Birth of the Wild West by Robert R. Dykstra and Jo Ann Manfra (University of Kansas Press)

Mountain Man: John Colter, the Lewis & Clark Expedition and the Call of the American West by David Weston Marshall (The Countryman Press)

Selling Sex in the Silver Valley: A Business Doing Pleasure by Dr. Heather Branstetter (The History Press)

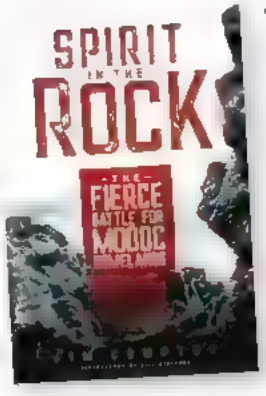
The Trials of Annie Oakley by Howard Kazanjian and Chris Enss (TwoDot)

Wars for Empire: Apaches, the United States, and the Southwest Borderlands by Janne Lahti (University of Oklahoma Press)

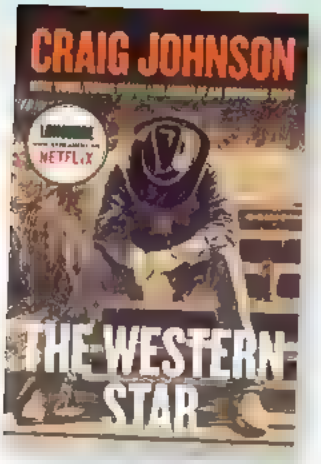
Why Custer was Never Warned: The Forgotten Story of the True Genesis of America's Most Iconic Military Disaster, Custer's Last Stand by Philip Thomas Tucker, Ph.D. (Universal Publishers)

Bonus Books:

Two new interpretations of the Modoc War and the tragic fate of the Modoc Indian tribe have been published this fall. I recommend both.



The first, published in August by Washington State University, ***Spirit in the Rock: The Fierce Battle for Modoc Homelands,*** was written by the late Jim Compton, and focuses on both the war and how Modoc spirituality and cultural traditions influenced their actions with and against the U.S. military. It also includes modern photographs of the Lava Beds region by Bill Stafford. The second, published in November by Bison Books/University of Nebraska Press, ***The Modoc War: A Story of Genocide at the Dawn of America's Gilded Age*** by Robert Aquinas McNally, also recounts the war and its aftermath, but academically also puts it in context to America's national struggle with its Native peoples during the early years of progressive politics and President U.S. Grant's "peace policy."



A Badge, a Body and a Gun

Modern Western mysteries dominate the sales of Western novels and there is no shortage of titles to choose from in 2017. Here are 11 of my favorites.

Beyond Reason by Kat Martin (Kensington)

Burials: a Faye Longchamp Mystery by Mary Anna Evans (Poisoned Pen Press)

Cold Hearted River by Keith McCafferty (Viking)

Dark Signal by Shannon Baker (Forge)

Desert Remains by Steven Cooper (Seventh Street Books)

Double Wide by Leo W Banks (Brash Books)

Kill the Heroes by David Thurlo (Minotaur Books)

Song of the Lion by Anne Hillerman (HarperCollins)

The Last Cowboys of San Geronimo: A Novel by Ian Stansel (Houghton Mifflin)

The Right Wrong Number by Jim Nesbitt (Spotted Mule Press)

The Western Star by Craig Johnson (Viking)

A BLACK COWBOY IN THE B-MOVIE WORLD OF THE 1930-40'S.

Ravage evokes questions of race with rare delicacy and description of midcentury Hollywood with learned skill ("Movie stars are made, not born, Jackie. Nobody came out of his mommie looking for the key light or the makeup man.") This is both a pleasurable and [illegible] read.

[illegible] struggle and acceptance in the [illegible] history.

An unusual look at a movie world we never knew.

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Independent Writers and Small Publishers

The digital age is a great era for Western writers—and lovers of Old West history and fiction—as small presses and self-publishing has opened up the marketplace to many more writers. Here are 11 books I highly recommend.

1881 by Daniel Fludgate (FeedAReadPublishing.com)

The 41 Short Rim-Fire: Deadliest Round in the West by Brendan Michael Murphy (self-published)

Black Star Over Hollywood by John W Ravage (XLibris)

Blood Once Spilled: The Gaslight Boys by John T. Wayne (Mockingbird Lane Press)

California Bound by Frank Kelso and John O'Melveny Woods (Intellect Publishing)

Deadwood Stage and Their Historic Families, Volume 2 by Patricia A. Campbell (self-published)

Lost Roundup by Phyllis de la Garza (Silk Label Books)

The Last Wild Ride by Lee Martin (Amazon Digital Services)

The Prisoner of Orchard Bend by Patrick Lemieux (Across the Board Books)

The Shots at Iron Mountain: A Story of Two Men—Tom Horn and Geronimo by Jiri Cernik (Dorrance Publishing)

The Walker: The Untold Story of Black Bart by Bruce Bradley (self-published)

BY LEO W. BANKS

Cowboys and Conductors

The Old West thrives in the historic trails and rails town of Williams, Arizona.

The northern Arizona town of Williams got off to a fast start after its founding in 1881. With the arrival of the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad (future Santa Fe Railway) the following year, it became a center for mining, ranching and lumber, with saloons, brothels and a few opium dens tossed in.

In 1901, the railroad laid track to the Grand Canyon, adding tourism to its economy. Later, so did the automobile and the advent of cross-country travel on Route 66.

But the Grand Canyon Railroad stopped operating in 1968, and in 1984, Interstate 40 allowed travelers to bypass Williams altogether.

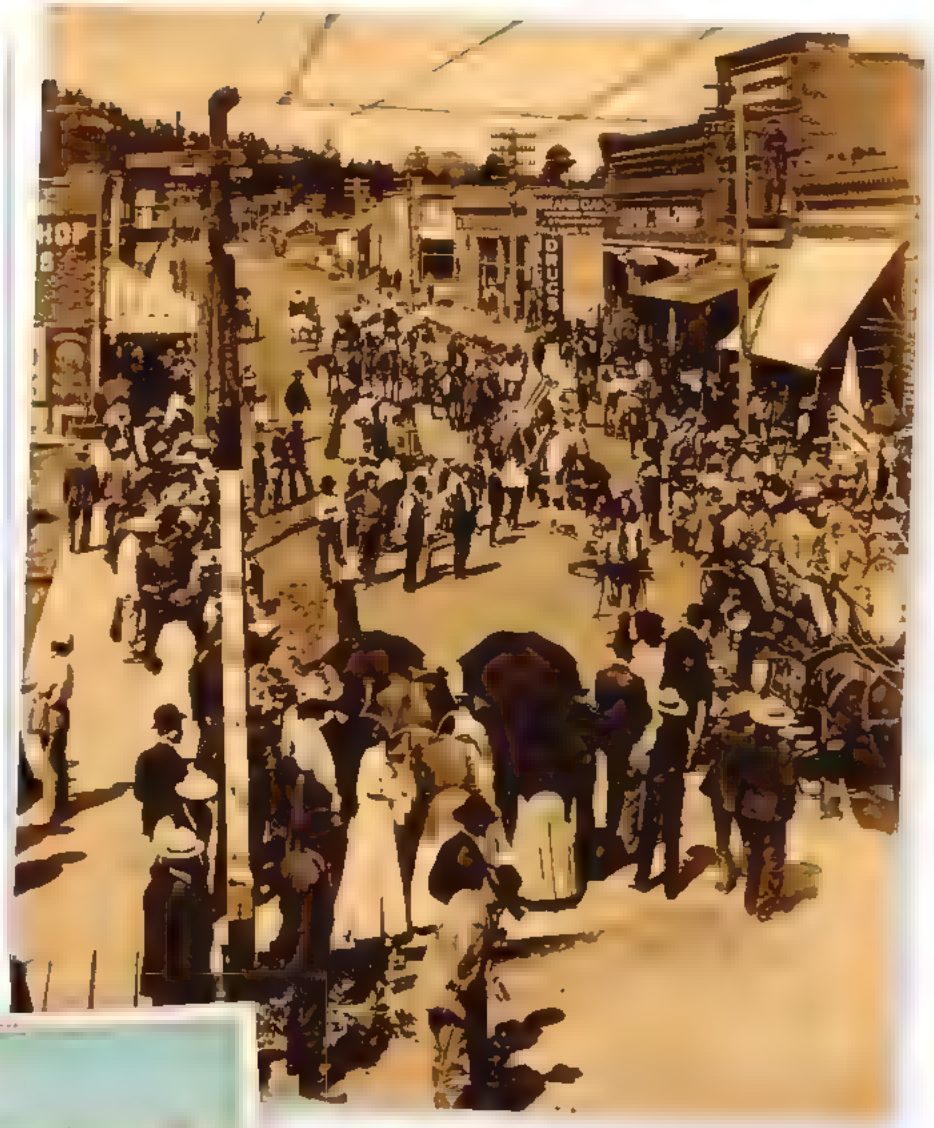
With reason to board up and blow away, the town held on.

"We've got a lot of grit," say Mayor John Moore. "We're a small town with a big heart."

The most popular attraction today is the Grand Canyon Railway, reopened in 1989. The train departs the Williams Depot every morning for the 65-mile trip to the South Rim. Travelers disembark 300 yards from the canyon and the most spectacular views anywhere.

The South Rim's iconic El Tovar Hotel, built in 1905, stands nearby, as does Hopi House gift shop, a pueblo-like stone structure designed by famed architect Mary Jane Colter.

Prior to the train's departure from Williams, actors from the Cataract Creek Gang put on a Wild West show outside the depot. On the return trip from the Canyon, the excitement continues as outlaws board from horseback and the marshal chases them through the train.



Parades have always been popular in Williams, Arizona, including a well attended celebration on Railroad Avenue in 1909. Founded in 1881, the city is named in honor of the famed mountain man Bill Williams, whose name graces the nearby 9,256 foot peak.

COURTESY BRIAN LEBEL'S WILD WEST AUCTION

The El Tovar Hotel at Grand Canyon National Park has been a destination for travelers from Williams on the Grand Canyon Railway since 1905.

COURTESY NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

As the train rolls, passengers in the last car can stand on an outside platform and watch the high desert roll by, possibly seeing antelope and elk bounding through the sage.

Fun fact: One of the Railway's steam engines runs on recycled vegetable oil. Hence, the nickname French Fry Express.

Moore also runs Wild West Junction, which operates out of what looks like a movie set in downtown Williams. Its buildings include the Branding Iron Restaurant, the Long Horn Saloon and Drovers Inn B&B.

Every summer night, the mountain town closes Route 66 to allow Wild West actors to put on shows in the middle of the street.

That road—the Mother Road, as author John Steinbeck called it—once served as the major thoroughfare from Chicago to California, and entered American mythology through books, movies, TV shows and songs.

Old West entertainment awaits travelers of all ages on the Grand Canyon Railway, including Wild West gunslinger action at the Williams Depot (top) before departure and every afternoon on its return trip when it is "held up" by Old West outlaws on horseback (above).

PHOTOS COURTESY CITY OF WILLIAMS

Williams's economy has always been connected to transportation. The transcontinental Atlantic & Pacific Railroad was completed in 1883, followed by the Grand Canyon Railway in 1901 and Route 66 in 1926. The nostalgically beloved "Mother Road," remains a main attraction for visitors to the mountain town.

COURTESY CITY OF WILLIAMS

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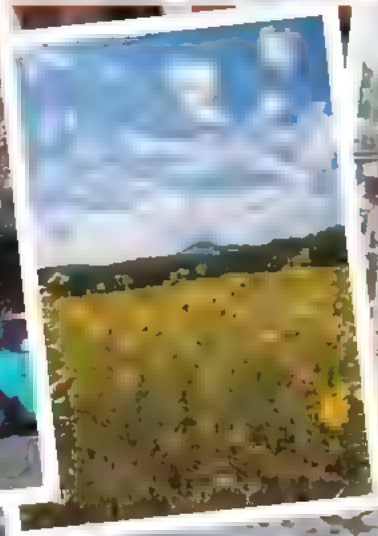

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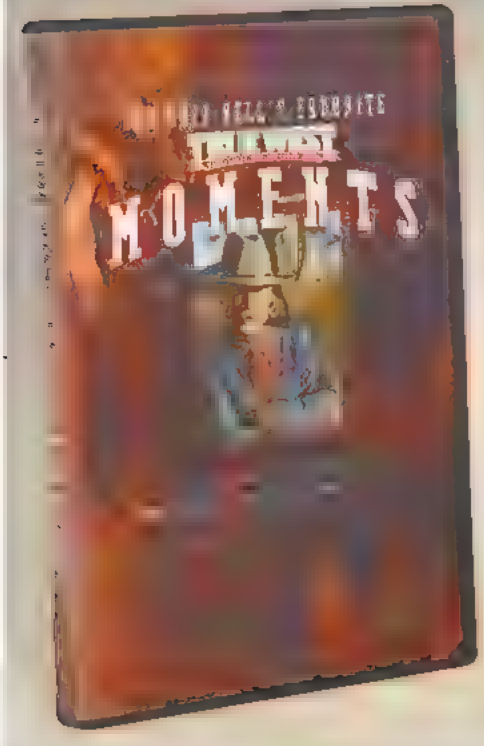

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—Paul Hutton,
Distinguished Professor,
University of New Mexico

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The late B R. Petit's eight foot statue *"Ole Bill" Williams* has graced Bill Williams Mountain Man Park along Old Route 66 since it was unveiled by U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater on April 26, 1980.

COURTESY CITY OF WILLIAMS

Remember Bobby Troup's lyrics, "Get your kicks on Route 66"? Visitors to Williams do just that, seeing motels, soda fountains and diners that look much as they did during the road's heyday.

The 1912 Sultana Bar has real stuffed animals on its walls, real cowboys at the bar—not stuffed, as far as we know—and plenty of folklore about tunnels underneath the building, built by Chinese railroad workers.

Towering over it all, at more than 9,200 feet, Bill Williams Mountain offers a variety of outdoor activities, including a 12-mile drive with fantastic views from the ponderosa pine forest.

Namesake Bill Williams, a redheaded traveling preacher, went on to become one of the West's legendary mountain men. An eight-foot bronze statue of him stands in Bill Williams Monument Park.

At Bearizona wildlife park, visitors drive gravel roads through the forest to see bears, elk and bison. Sometimes the animals come right to your windows. At Grand Canyon Deer Farm, kids feed and pet deer, pygmy goats and llamas as they walk among them.

In 2018, the City of Williams will celebrate Independence Day with its 67th Annual Fourth of July Parade, which features the always popular Bill Williams Mountain Men re enactors group

COURTESY CITY OF WILLIAMS

If you're strolling around Williams and happen to spot Mayor Moore in his cowboy hat, vest and marshal's badge, ask about Hat Ranch outside town. He leases it and plans to open it to guests interested in experiencing authentic cowboy life

"Around here we're still in the era of cowboys and working ranches," says Moore. "Sure, we've got all the amenities, but I don't think we've quite caught up with the modern world... and I hope we never do."

Leo W. Banks is an award-winning writer based in Tucson. His first novel, *Double Wide*, is a mystery set in Arizona.

WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY

WILLIAMS VISITOR CENTER

To plan your visit, stop in at the Williams Visitor Center at 200 W. Railroad Ave.

ExperienceWilliams.com

RED GARTER INN B&B

Located in a former saloon and bordello now on the National Register of Historic Places, the second floor once had a parlor and eight cribs for the girls. The cowboy-customers got there by walking the 21-step "staircase to heaven."

RedGarter.com

GRAND CANYON RAILWAY AND HISTORIC DEPOTS

Visitors can ride the train to the Canyon in 1923 Harriman cars, or go in high style by choosing the deluxe observation class.

Of the approximately 14 log railroad depots built in the U.S., the two-story Grand Canyon Depot is the only one still in use. Completed in 1910, it's a National Historic Landmark.

The Williams Railroad Depot was built in 1908 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Located inside the Williams Depot, the Fray Marcos Hotel was one of the original Harvey Houses, built by Fred Harvey to accommodate railroad travelers. Harvey Houses brought civilization to the Wild West, helped along by the famous Harvey Girls, dressed in their trademark black-and-white uniforms.

Although the Fray Marcos Hotel no longer takes guests, parts of the original structure house the Grand Canyon Railway gift shop. The nearby Grand Canyon Railway Hotel was built in 1995 to resemble the Fray Marcos.

TheTrain.com

PLANES OF FAME AIR MUSEUM

You'll find 30 historic aircraft, including a German 109 G-10 Messerschmitt captured by the Allies during World War II. Museum director Robert Reed says another popular item is an A-26 twin-engine light bomber used in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

PlanesOfFame.com

BEALE WAGON ROAD HISTORIC TRAIL

Edward Fitzgerald Beale built the road, a 1,270-mile migration route from Fort Smith, Arkansas, to the Colorado River. Covering 23 miles in the Kaibab National Forest north of Williams, much of it remains unchanged from 1857. Today it's open for hiking and horseback riding.

FS.USDA.gov

Just as in the Old West, firearms have been an important part of Phil Spangenberger's life, having lived many adventures with his shootin' irons. In this tintype photograph, taken by an itinerant tintypist around 1978, using a 10 second sunlight exposure, and developed in the back of his horse drawn wagon, Spangenberger blurs the line between reality and re creation in this Victorian posed shot with his horse, Jeb Stuart, a Shiloh Sharps buffalo rifle carried in a California horn loop on his Sam Stagg rigged slick fork saddle and a Colt Peacemaker on his hip.

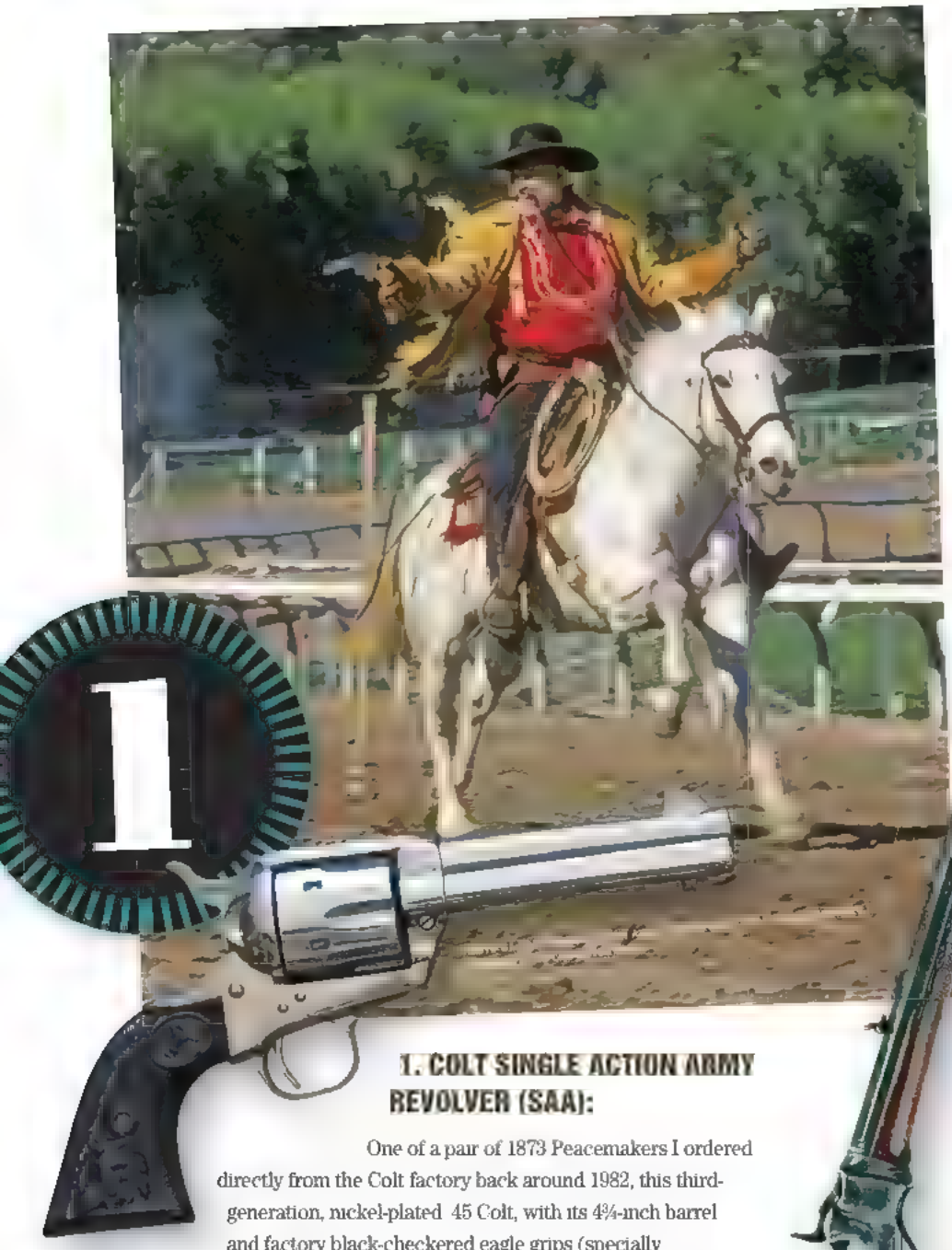
ALL PHOTOS BY PHIL SPANGENBERGER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

10 TREASURED FIREARMS

BY PHIL SPANGENBERGER

If you could keep just 10 of your guns, which ones would make the cut? Here are my selections.

I was recently asked which of my personal guns are my favorites. Of course there are many that I enjoy having for different reasons. Some I admire because of their historical association or intrinsic beauty. Then there are those I'm attached to for sentimental reasons—used in some of my adventures. Just having them brings back pleasant memories of a life around firearms and the great outdoors, reliving the Wild West, hunting America's back country, and in the bush in Africa, or spending quality trigger time with fun guns and dear friends. If I somehow had to make the decision to keep just ten of them, these are the candidates that would stay in my collection.



1. COLT SINGLE ACTION ARMY REVOLVER (SAA):

One of a pair of 1873 Peacemakers I ordered directly from the Colt factory back around 1982, this third-generation, nickel-plated .45 Colt, with its 4¾-inch barrel and factory black-checkered eagle grips (specially requested, rather than the walnut grips normally supplied with nickeled SAAs) has been heavily used from the day I received it. This six-gun, with my name engraved on the backstrap in Victorian-style script by Colt Master engraver, Steve Kamyck, has seen use in countless Wild West shows and fancy gun-handling exhibitions, mounted shooting exhibitions and Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (CMSA) competitions. My right-hand gun, this particular Colt has been packed on my right hip in more shows than I can count. It's also been a back-country companion on horseback hunting trips, and was the most employed when I taught safe and fancy gun-handling techniques to movie stars Mel Gibson, Tom Berenger, Will Smith, Rob Lowe and Julie Benz, to name a few. It's also a revolver I'd feel perfectly competent and comfortable with if I had to rely on it for self-defense. Of all of my firearms, this Peacemaker Colt has shared more memorable adventures with me than any of my others. It stays with me

2. MODEL 1874 SHARPS RIFLE

Because of my passion for the old buffalo guns, especially Sharps rifles, I'd keep my original 1874 Sharps Sporting rifle in .44-77 caliber, which was shipped on December 7, 1872, to Sharps agent Freund and Brother of Denver, Colorado. This Hartford, Connecticut-manufactured gun is a definite keeper. A typical buffalo-hunting rifle, this 12½-pound rifle has a 30-inch octagon barrel, double set triggers, Rocky Mountain buckhorn sights and an oiled-finish walnut stock. I got it in a trade with country music icon Hank Williams Jr., who also cherishes these legendary firearms. This historic Sharps most assuredly ranks among my favorites.

MODEL 1874 SHARPS RIFLE PHOTO BY RON PAXTON

3

3. MODEL 1860 COLT PERCUSSION REVOLVER

My 1860 Army Colt civilian model revolver is another of my treasured firearms. This 8-inch-barreled handgun is a late-production model, manufactured around 1871. It retains about 25 percent of its original blue finish, traces of color case hardening, and one-piece ivory stocks that appear to be original to it. I've long favored the sleek lines of the '60 model, and consider it my favorite Colt percussion revolver. This specimen is a handsome example of the type of six-shooters that saw so much use in the Old West—even after the introduction of metallic cartridge firearms.

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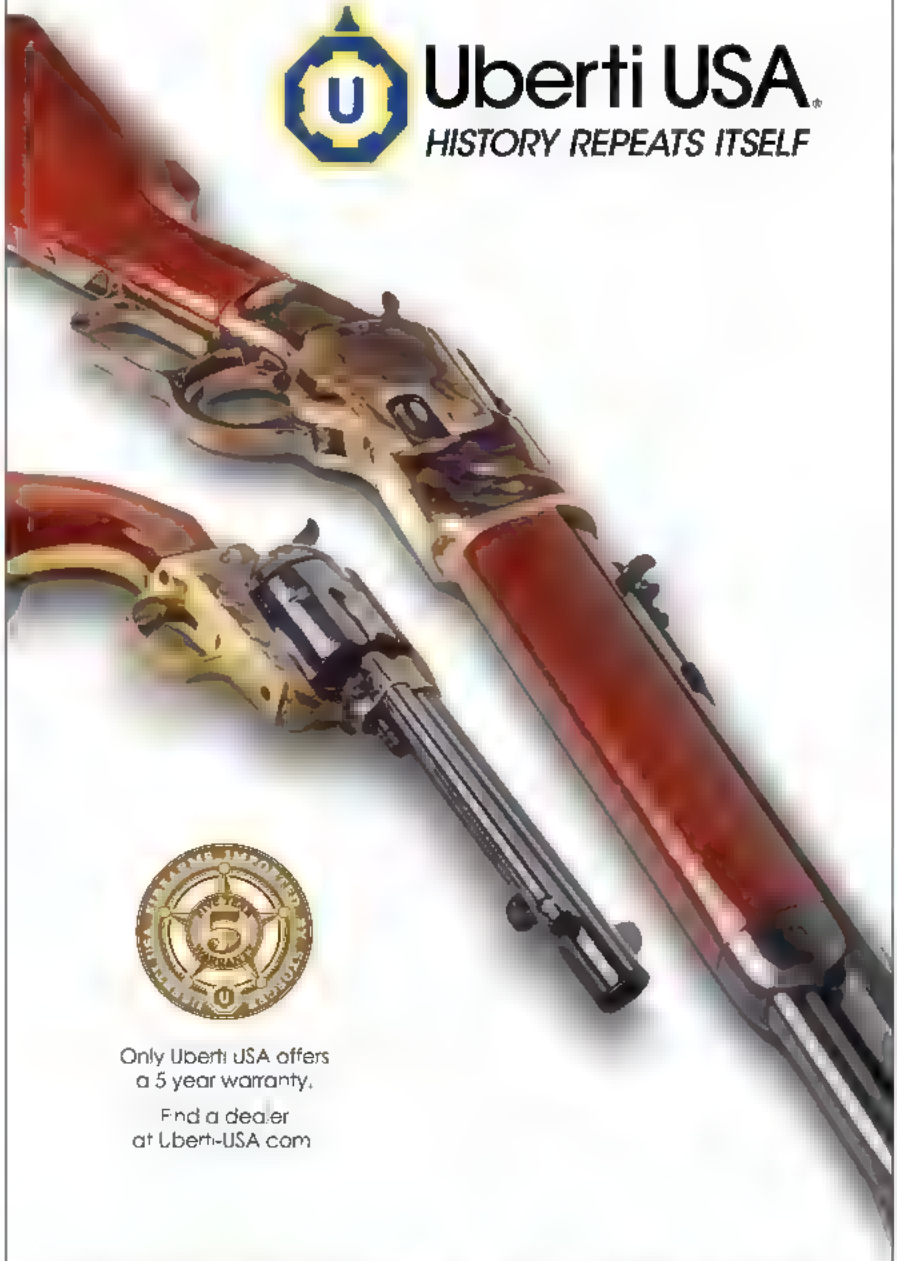

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4. KODIAK MK IV DOUBLE RIFLE

My Kodiak Mark IV, .45-70 double rifle certainly rates among my favorite firearms. It's a quality replica of the rare 1878 Colt double rifle. It was presented to me in 1988 by the late Mike Powasnuck, who had Pedersoli of Italy create this side-hammer double after I'd suggested he create a metallic cartridge version of his caplock Kodiak Mk III double rifle that would be capable of taking African game. My Kodiak was the first production model made and the first one to take African game (a 54-inch greater southern kudu). I had Master Gunsmith Lon Paul (*LonPaulCustomGuns.com*) fit African express sights to it, and the gun has become my favorite African hunter, used on two of my three safaris. Having taken a half-dozen head of African plains game with it—including Cape buffalo—it holds a very special place in my heart. This is one straight-shooting double rifle that elicits a continent full of fond memories.

HUNT PHOTO BY PETER HEPBURN

5. MODEL 1860 SPENCER CARBINE

This original 1860 Spencer carbine's serial number puts it in the last U S Government contract of Civil War carbines known to have been sent to the field and issued before war's end in the spring of 1865. Representing the first repeater in modern warfare, this carbine was undoubtedly carried by some trooper in Sheridan's cavalry. Besides having a military-style letter "B" faintly branded into the stock, the gun shows definite signs of post-war frontier usage. It evidences Indian ownership with its stock inlaid German silver sunburst motif, an 1874 Indian-head penny crudely brass-tacked into it and four tack holes where a four-winds design was tacked.

Purchased for $50 when I was just 19 years old (it took me three months to pay it off), this Spencer has proven to be a wise investment, while intriguing me for decades, wondering what stories it could tell.

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6. SHILOH/C. SHARPS ARMS CUSTOM "BIG FIFTY" 1874 SHARPS

Another authentic reproduction that holds a special place in my gunner's heart is my Shiloh/C. Sharps Arms, .50-90 custom Sharps. Produced back in 1980, this "Big Fifty" rifle was manufactured by Shiloh Rifle Co., with custom work added to it by C. Sharps Arms Co., both of Big Timber, Montana. Besides being an authentic reproduction of a pre-1876 Hartford Sharps, with deluxe wood and scroll engraving by master engraver Robert Evans, it's a working rifle, having accompanied me on several Montana back-country hunts where I've taken bison and mule deer, and in Wyoming, where I took a handsome 15¼-inch horned pronghorn. It's also seen use in a number of History Channel programs. I've often said that if Christian Sharps were alive today, he'd be proud to put his name on one of these rifles. This Shiloh stays with Phil!

1874 SHARPS PHOTO BY JOE POYER/ HUNT PHOTO BY JOHN SCHOFFSTALL

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7. CIMARRON ARMS "ORIGINAL FINISH" 1873 CATTLEMAN

Despite having several vintage six-guns to choose from, I'd have to say that for its authentic period appeal and as a straight-shooting revolver, one of my favorite smoke wagons is an engraved Cimarron Arms, 7½-inch .45 Colt-chambered, 1873 Old Model Cattleman (pre-1896 "black powder" frame and other pre-'96 cosmetics), done in the company's antiqued "original finish," and wearing Don Furr (Costa Mesa, California) faux ivory stocks showing a high-relief Mexican eagle and snake national symbol. One of a pair, it's been packed for many Old West events, parades and historic celebrations. I love the looks, feel and smooth functioning (without having had an action job) of this new/old single action. 'Nuff said.

8. MODEL 1860 COLT RICHARDS CONVERSION

With my previously stated affection for the 1860 Army Colt, it should come as no surprise that I would have an extremely difficult time parting with my original, but in near-new condition 1860 Colt Richards cartridge conversion revolver. This nickel-plated, .44 Colt Centerfire six-gun, like all of Colt's percussion revolvers that were converted to metallic cartridge, combines the sleek lines of the caplocks with the convenience of the quicker loading metal-cased ammunition. My '60 Army Colt Richards, made some time between 1873-1878, is a pristine example of one of the oft-overlooked six-shooters of the Old West.

9. MODEL 1873 SPRINGFIELD TRAPDOOR CARBINE

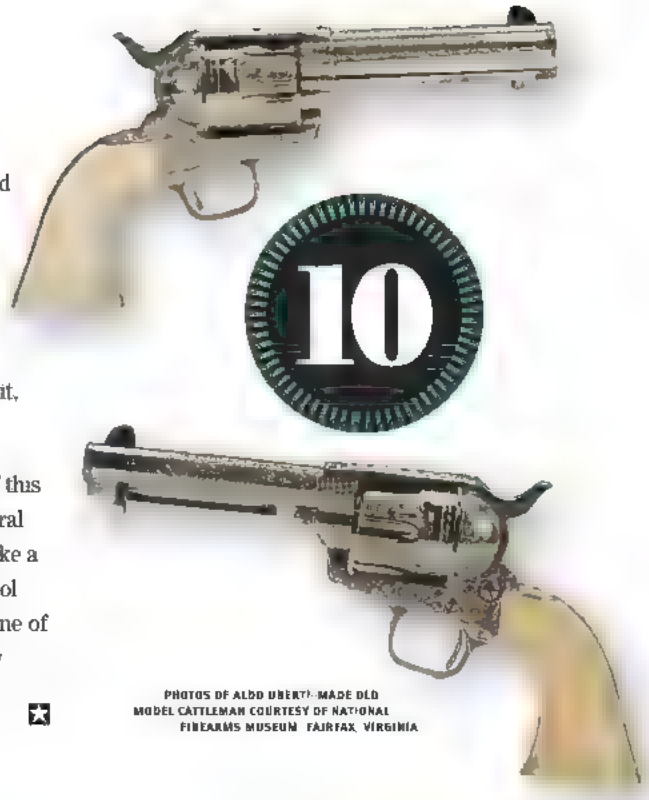
With my passion for the Old West, horses and the cavalry, to me no firearm is more fitting and representative of the frontier horse soldier than my 1st Model 1873 Springfield Trapdoor carbine. Although manufactured in 1875, its serial number range is higher than most trapdoors known to have been used at the infamous fight at the Little Big Horn River on June 25, 1876, between Lt. Col. Custer's 7th Cavalry and Crazy Horse's Sioux warriors. Nonetheless, it is the exact model of the carbines carried by those ill-fated troopers. It dates from the turbulent 1870s, when the West was wild, woolly and full of spit and vinegar. This cavalry carbine is pure history in walnut and steel.

10. UBERTI ENGRAVED OLD MODEL CATTLEMAN

Another replica that makes my list of treasured keepers is a Uberti-made Old Model Cattleman. This beautiful peacemaker clone is elaborately hand-engraved in the 1880s Cuno Helfricht style, sports nickel-plating, bulls-eye ejector head and wears ivory stocks featuring 19th-century-type checkering, that was handcut by the master himself, friend John Ennis of Council, Idaho. A working piece of art, this handsome '73 Old Model was one of a pair presented to me by the late Maria Uberti, replica arms importer and daughter of Italy's famed replica firearms

manufacturer, Aldo Uberti. Exquisite in every detail, this personalized single action bears my initials in script on the butt plate and holds its own with some of the finest antique arms around, yet it has been one of my working guns, used in CMSA Cowboy Mounted Shooting competitions, Wild West show mounted aerial shooting performances and exhibited in the National Rifle Association's National Firearms Museum, in Fairfax, Virginia. Any way you look at it, this is one stunning revolver, and a definite keeper.

The above firearms are those that I have a special attachment to. If this list were made with a more utilitarian purpose, such as survival, several selections would undoubtedly vary by picking mostly modern arms like a 12-gauge shotgun, a .22 rifle and a big-bore rifle, a 1911 semi-auto pistol and a powerful revolver. However, you can bet I'd still have at least one of my Colt Peacemakers, and a Sharps on the list. They would make any listing of my favorite guns. What does your list include?



PHOTOS OF ALDO UBERTI-MADE OLD MODEL CATTLEMAN COURTESY OF NATIONAL FIREARMS MUSEUM, FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA

Phil Spangenberger has written for *Guns & Ammo*, appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows, is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor, and is *True West*'s Firearms Editor

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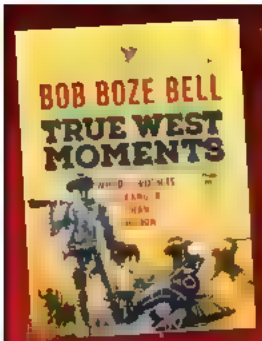

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Western Roundup

FOR NOVEMBER 2017

WILD WEST DAYS

Cave Creek, AZ, November 1-5: This celebration of the Wild West features mounted shooting contests, costume competitions and live music.
480-437-1196 ▪ *WildWestDaysCaveCreek.com*

ADVENTURE

IMAGE MAKER RIDE

Morristown, AZ, October 28. This carriage ride offers a Western adventure that allows you to immerse yourself in Arizona s territorial history
602-710-4229 ▪ *ArizonaHorseCarriage.com*

ART SHOWS

AMERICAN PLAINS ARTISTS JURIED EXHIBITION & SALE

Las Cruces, NM, Opens August 3: View American Plains artworks sharing the region s landscapes, wildlife, people and way of life.
575-522-4100 ▪ *NMFarmAndRanchMuseum.org*

AMERICAN INDIAN ART

Dallas, TX, November 13: Historical and collectible memorabilia up for bid includes American Indian art and frontier photographs
877-437-4824 ▪ *HA.com*

ARTWALK ALPINE

Alpine, TX, November 17-18: View historical and contemporary life in West Texas art, while local musicians serenade with live music.
432-837-3067 ▪ *ArtwalkAlpine.com*

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

DEATH VALLEY '49ERS ENCAMPMENT

Furnace Creek, CA, November 5-12: Honors the spirit of the 1849 Gold Rush through music, an arts and crafts show, cowboy poetry and parades.
866-683-2948 ▪ *DeathValley49ers.org*

COWBOYS ON MAIN

Bandera, TX, November 18. Strolling entertainers and history re-enactors bring frontier Christmas to life in front of the county courthouse.
830-796-3045 ▪ *BanderaCowboyCapital.com*

RANCH HAND FESTIVAL

Kingsville, TX, November 18-19: This festival honors Kingsville s rich cultural heritage as one of the mainstays of the Texas ranching industry
800-333-5032 ▪ *RanchHandFestival.com*

NATIVE ART NOW! EXHIBITION

Indianapolis, IN, Opens November 11: Exhibits contemporary American Indian artworks, including the shown digital chromogenic print *In-Between Worlds* by Meryl McMaster
317-275-1343 ▪ *EiteljorgMuseum.com*

Western Roundup

FOR NOVEMBER 2017

HOLIDAY FESTIVALS

CHRISTMAS IN LECOMPTON

Lecompton, KS, November 1-30: View the roughly 120 Christmas trees featuring vintage decorations at the Territorial Capital Museum
785-887-6148 • *LecomptonKansas.com*

COLORADO COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Denver, CO, November 3-5. Shop Colorado Country Christmas to find Old West offerings for the cowboy and cowgirl on your gift list.
800-521-7469 • *ColoradoChristmasGiftShow.com*

POLAR EXPRESS

Rusk, TX, Opens November 11. Kids can read the story on this steam train journey from the Palestine depot to "North Pole" to meet Santa.
855-632-7729 • *TexasStateRR.com*

HASTINGS CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

Hastings, NE, November 16. The streets of downtown Hastings fill with carolers, entertainers and families taking carriage and pony rides.
800-967-2189 • *HastingsDowntown.com*

SANTA'S LIGHTED FOREST AND NORTH POLE ADVENTURE

Georgetown, CO, Nov. 18- Dec. 31. Enjoy hot cocoa, cookies and candy canes from Santa and his helpers aboard decorated train coaches.
888-456-6777 • *GeorgetownLoopRR.com*

THE POLAR EXPRESS

Durango, CO, Opens November 19: This 1879 railroad offers kids a train ride that shares the classic Christmas tale on the way to Santa.
970-247-2733 • *DurangoTrain.com*

FAROLITO LIGHTING AND PINE CONE CEREMONY

Morrison, CO, November 26. Experience the Southwestern tradition of lighting farolitos (paper lanterns) at Tesoro Cultural Center
303-839-1671 • *TesoroCulturalCenter.org*

CHANDLER CHUCK WAGON COOK-OFF

Chandler, AZ, November 10-11. Authentic 1880s chuckwagons from around the Southwest compete to cook up the best meals fit for the trail.
480-782-2751 • *ChandlerAZ.gov*

WICKENBURG BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Wickenburg, AZ, November 10-12: Cowboys and cowgirls from across the country gather for outdoor performances of Bluegrass music.
928-684-5479 • *WickenburgChamber.com*

SISTERS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION & PARADE

Sisters, OR, November 24-25: Kick off the holiday season with a tree lighting ceremony and parade that features Santa and Mrs. Claus.
866-549-0252 • *SistersCountry.com*

NORTH POLE FEVER

Austin, TX, Opens November 25: Ride from Cedar Park to Bertram inside train cars decorated for the winter holiday season.
512-477-8468 • *AustinSteamTrain.org*

CHRISTMAS AT UNION STATION

Omaha, NE, Opens November 27: A tradition since Union Station's earliest years, this tree lighting ceremony includes a visit from Santa.
402-444-5071 • *DurhamMuseum.org*

LECTURE

"SAVING THE SOUTHERN PLAINS BISON"

Canyon, TX, November 19: Donald Beard discusses North America's bison history, the Goodnight herd and the future of the animals.
806-651-2244 • *PanhandlePlains.org*

RODEO

WRCA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RANCH RODEO

Amarillo, TX, November 9-12: Top ranch teams compete in the world championship hosted by Working Ranch Cowboys Association.
806-374-9722 • *WRCA.org*

STARLIGHT PARADE

The Dalles, OR, November 24: This former fur trade town brings Cowboy Christmas to life with lighted parade floats and merry jingles.
541-296-2231 • *TheDallesChamber.com*

TWMag.com:
View Western events on our website.

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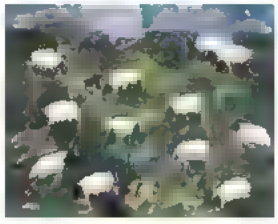

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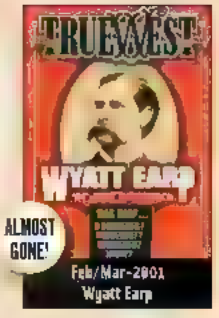

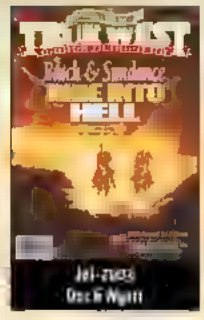

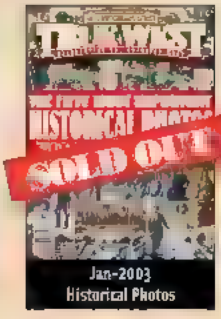

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- ☐ Mar: Richard Farnsworth
- ☐ May: Samuel Walker
- ☐ Jun: Frontier Half-Bloods
- ☐ Jul: Billy & the Kids
- ☐ Aug: John Wayne
- ☐ Sep: Border Breed
- ☐ Oct: Halloween Issue
- ☐ Nov: Apache Scout
- ☐ Dec: Mountain Men

2001
- ☐ Jan: Topless Gunfighter
- ☐ May/Jun: Custer
- ☐ Jul: Cowboys & Cowtowns

2002
- ☐ Aug: Sep: Jesse James
- ☐ Oct: Billy On The Brain
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Butch & Sundance

2003
- ☐ Jan: 50 Historical Photos
- ☐ Feb/Mar: 50 Guns
- ☐ Apr: John Wayne
- ☐ Spring: Jackalope Creator Dies
- ☐ May/Jun: Custer Killer
- ☐ Jul: Doc & Wyatt
- ☐ Aug/Sep: A General Named Dorothy
- ☐ Oct: Vera McGinnis
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Worst Westerns Ever

2004
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Six Guns
- ☐ Mar: Fakes, Fake Doc
- ☐ April/Travel: Visit the Old West
- ☐ May: Iron Horse/Sacred Dogs
- ☐ Jun: HBO's Deadwood
- ☐ Jul: 17 Legends
- ☐ Aug: J.W Hardin
- ☐ Sep: Wild Bunch
- ☐ Oct: Bill Pickett
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Dale Evans

2005
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Rare Photos
- ☐ Mar: Deadwood/McShane
- ☐ Apr: 77 Sunset Trips
- ☐ May: Trains/Collector's Edition
- ☐ Jun: Jesus Out West
- ☐ Jul: All Things Cowboy
- ☐ Aug: History of Western Wear
- ☐ Sep: Gambling
- ☐ Oct: Blaze Away/Wyatt
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Gay Western? Killer DVDs

2006
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Mexican Insurgents
- ☐ Mar: Kit Carson
- ☐ Apr: I've Been Everywhere, Man
- ☐ May: The Racial Frontier
- ☐ Jun: Playing Sports in the OW
- ☐ Jul/Aug: Dude, Where's My Ranch?
- ☐ Sep: Indian Yell
- ☐ Oct: Tombstone/125th Ok Corral
- ☐ Nov: Gambling
- ☐ Dec: Buffalo Gals & Guys

2007
- ☐ Jan, Feb: Cowboys Are Indians
- ☐ Mar: Trains/Tom Clark
- ☐ Apr: Western Travel
- ☐ May: Dreamscape Desperado/Billy
- ☐ Jun: Collecting the West, Photos
- ☐ Jul: Man Who Saved The West
- ☐ Aug: Western Media's Best Reads
- ☐ Sep: Endurance Of The Horse
- ☐ Oct: 3:10 To Yuma
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Brad Pitt & Jesse James

2008
- ☐ Jan, Feb: Pat Garrett, No Country
- ☐ Mar: Who Killed the Train?
- ☐ Apr: Travel/Geronimo
- ☐ May: Who Stole Buffalo Bill's Home?
- ☐ Jun: The Last Cowboy President?
- ☐ Jul: Secrets of Our Nat'l Parks/Teddy
- ☐ Aug: Kendricks Northern CBs/Photos
- ☐ Sep: Saloons & Stagecoaches
- ☐ Oct: Charlie Russell
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Mickey Free

2009
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Border Riders
- ☐ Mar: Poncho Villa
- ☐ Apr: Stagecoach
- ☐ May: Battle For The Alamo
- ☐ Jun: Custer's Ride To Glory
- ☐ Jul: Am West, Then & Now
- ☐ Aug: Wild West Shows
- ☐ Sep: vaquero/500 Yrs Before CBs
- ☐ Oct: Capturing Billy
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Chaco Canyon

2010
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Top 10 Western Towns
- ☐ Mar: Trains/Pony Express
- ☐ Apr: OW Destinations/Clint Eastwood
- ☐ May: Legendary Sonny Jim
- ☐ Jun: Extreme Western Adventures
- ☐ Jul: Starvation Trail/AZ Rough Riders
- ☐ Aug: Digging up Billy the Kid
- ☐ Sep: Classic Rodeo.
- ☐ Oct: Extraordinary Western Art
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Black Warriors of the West

2011
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Sweethearts of the Rodeo
- ☐ Mar: 175th Anniv: Battle of the Alamo
- ☐ Apr: Three True Grits
- ☐ May: Historic Ranches
- ☐ Jun: Tin Type Billy
- ☐ Jul: Viva, Outlaw Women
- ☐ Aug: Was Geronimo A Terrorist?
- ☐ Sep: Western Museums/CBs & Aliens
- ☐ Oct: Hard Targets
- ☐ Nov, Dec: Butch Cassidy's Back

2012
- ☐ Feb: Az Crazy Road to Statehood
- ☐ Mar: Special Entertainment Issue
- ☐ Apr: Riding Shotgun with History
- ☐ May: The Outlaw Cowboys of NM
- ☐ Jun: Wyatt On The Set!
- ☐ July: Deadly Trackers
- ☐ Aug: How Did Butch & Sundance Die?
- ☐ Sep: The Heros of Northfield
- ☐ Oct: Bravest Lawman You Never
- ☐ Nov: Armed & Courageous
- ☐ Dec: Legend of Climax Jim

2013
- ☐ Jan: Best of the West/John Wayne
- ☐ Feb: Rocky Mountain Rangers
- ☐ Apr: US Marshals
- ☐ May: Texas Rangers
- ☐ Jun: Doc's Last Gunfight
- ☐ Jul: Comanche Killers
- ☐ Aug: Tombstone 20th Anniv
- ☐ Sep: Ambushed on the Pecos
- ☐ Oct: Outlaws, Lawmen & Gunfighters
- ☐ Nov: Sorted Doves
- ☐ Dec: Cowboy, Ground Zero

2014
- ☐ Jan: Best 100 Historical Photos
- ☐ Feb: Assn of Pat Garrett
- ☐ Mar: Stand-up Gunfights
- ☐ Apr: Wyatt Earp Alaska
- ☐ May: Tom Horn
- ☐ Jun: Custer Captured
- ☐ Jul: 50 Historical Gunfighter Photos
- ☐ Aug: Bigfoot Wallace/Train Robberies
- ☐ Sep: New Billy Photo/Top Museums
- ☐ Oct: Charlie Russell/Movie Hats
- ☐ Nov: Wild Bill's Last Gunfight
- ☐ Dec: Olive Oatman-Branded

2015
- ☐ Jan: 100 Historical Am Indian Photos
- ☐ Feb: Mountain Man-First Survivalists
- ☐ Mar: Mickey Free/Severed Heads
- ☐ Apr: Jack Stilwell-Forgotten Scout
- ☐ May: Armed to Survive
- ☐ Jun: Billy the Kid-Special Report
- ☐ Jul: 50 Historical Photos-Panco Villa
- ☐ Aug: Luke Short-Dodge City War
- ☐ Sep: Crossing America-Lewis & Clark
- ☐ Oct: Wyatt Earp in Hollywood
- ☐ Nov: 22 Guns that Won the West
- ☐ Dec: The First Mountain Man

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The Crooked Lawman

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian and vice president of the Wild West History Association. His latest book is *Arizona Outlaws and Lawmen;* The History Press, 2015. If you have a question, write Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at marshall.trimble@scottsda.ecc.edu

Was Bill Tilghman honest?

Terrel Shields
Siloam Springs, Arkansas

Bill Tilghman was, at best, a flawed character.

Zoe Tilghman's biography of her husband is the source of most of the deputy U.S. marshal's legend—but that book doesn't match historical records.

Bill was accused of graft and corruption, sold whiskey to Indians and was arrested multiple times for running a bawdy house and gambling while serving as sheriff of Lincoln County in Oklahoma, writes Nancy B. Samuelson in *Shoot from the Lip. The Lives, Legends and Lies of the Three Guardsmen of Oklahoma and U.S. Marshal Nix.*

On November 1, 1924, while chief of police in Cromwell, the 70 year old was fatally shot by a Prohibition officer after Bill refused to take a bribe.

Yet nothing indicates agent Wiley Lynn was involved in criminal activities. On the contrary, he had conducted important raids on bootleggers. Lynn was found not guilty by self-defense.

To frame Tilghman's death at the hand of a drunken officer was another attempt by the Tilghman mythmakers to reinvent his checkered career.

This charcoal enhanced photo of young Bill Tilghman was owned by his widow, Zoe. He was shot down in 1924 at the age of 70 while working as a lawman in the wild oil boomtown of Cromwell, Oklahoma.

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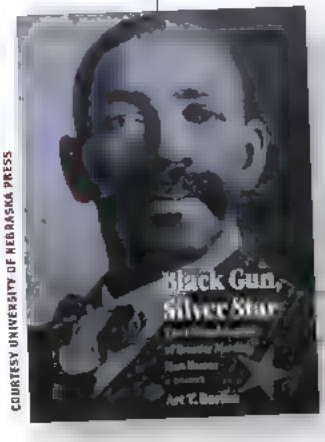
Why hasn't anyone written a book about the Lone Ranger being a black man?

Stan Johnson
Riverside, California

At least one book claims that Deputy U.S. Marshal Bass Reeves was the prototype for the Lone Ranger. Historian Art Burton wrote an excellent book in 2006 on Reeves, *Black Gun, Silver Star.* In July 2013, *True West* published Burton's argument that the Lone Ranger radio character was based on the frontier deputy marshal.

Burton addressed similarities between the Lone Ranger and Reeves: both rode with an Indian posseman (Tonto, for the Lone Ranger; Reeves worked with multiple Indians) and both left "silver" calling cards (Lone Ranger left silver bullets, while Reeves left silver dollars). The direct tie to the two, Burton argued, was Detroit, Michigan. Many of the 3,000 convicts Reeves arrested were sent to Detroit House of Corrections, in the same city where creators dreamed up the Lone Ranger character in 1933.

Was Reeves the Lone Ranger? Nobody has proven that conclusively, but Burton is among those who believe the frontier marshal inspired the masked man.



COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS

Who is Frank "Pistol Pete" Eaton?

Jeff Hoge
Midlothian, Texas

The deputy U.S. marshal and cowboy told a tale of his life in his 1952 autobiography, *Pistol Pete: Veteran of the Old West.* He claimed he killed 11 men in fair gunfights, including five who had murdered his father.

Most of the book, however, appears to be fictional. He offered no corroborating sources for his claims or records of his amazing feats.

Ramon Adams wrote Eaton's book shared a "most preposterous tale," among other fictions, and he quoted a statement by another reviewer: "Books like this one are a distinct menace to Western history."

While riding in a 1923 Armistice Day parade in Stillwater, Oklahoma, Eaton so epitomized the Old West that some students at Oklahoma State University (then Oklahoma A&M College) decided to model the school mascot after Pistol Pete.

How did pioneers preserve corpses?

George Townsend
Bella Vista, Arkansas

Pioneers preserved bodies in winter ice and snow, when available, or soaked

ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

them in arsenic or alcohol. Jack Slade's widow, for instance, reportedly preserved her husband's body in a tin casket filled with whiskey. Intending to transport his body to his home state of Illinois, she got as far as Salt Lake City, Utah, before giving up and burying Jack.

The development of formaldehyde in 1859 improved the preservation of bodies. It stabilized the bacteria that invaded and decayed flesh, muscle, tissue and organs.

Do we know who killed Bob Dalton?

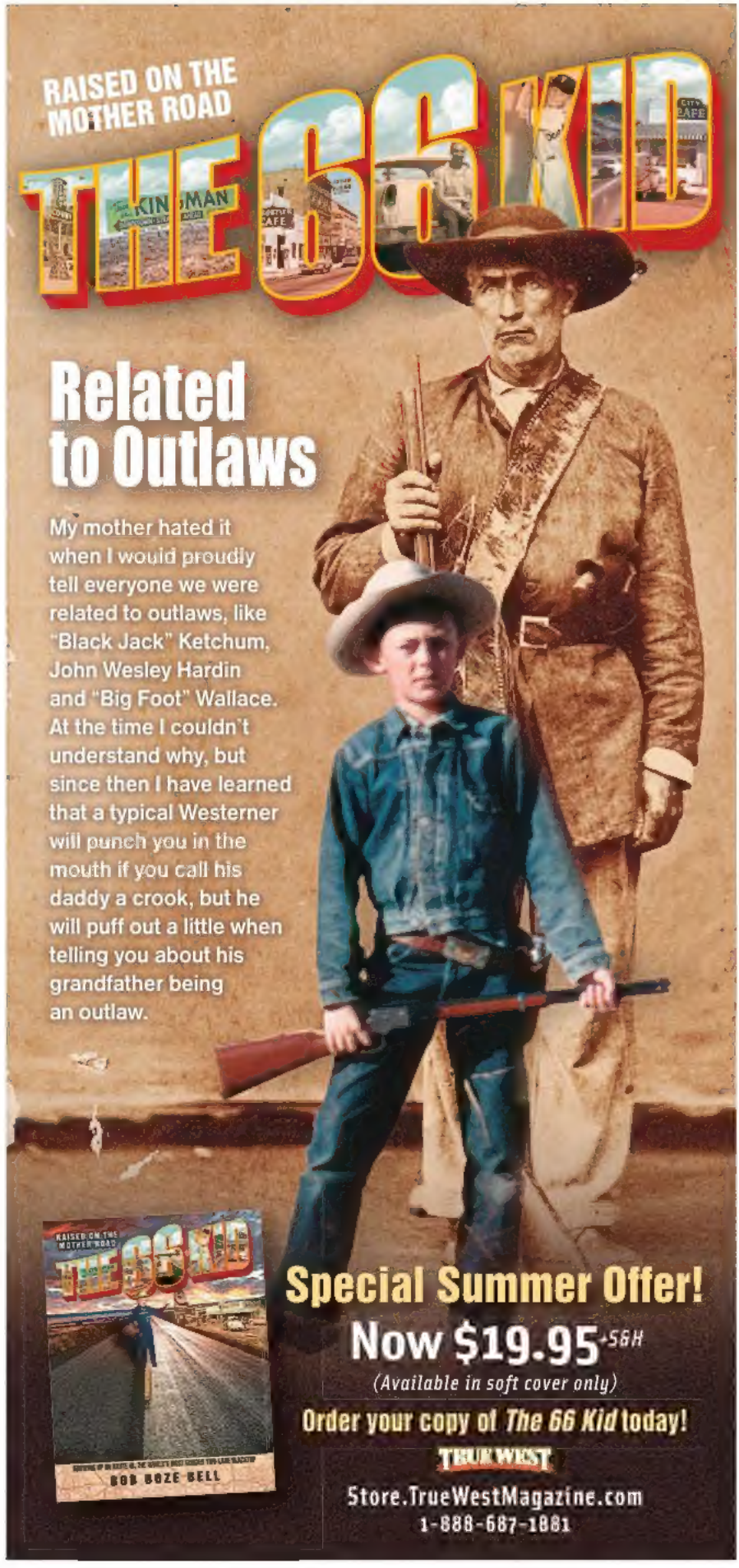
Paul Randall
Tucson, Arizona

The shooter who fired the shot that killed Bob Dalton on October 5, 1892— from a borrowed Model 1873 Winchester .44-40—was liveryman John Kloehr, who owned the stable next to "Death Alley."

While attempting to rob two banks in Coffeyville, Kansas, with his brothers, Bob got hit by a shooter inside J.T. Isham's hardware store. When the wounded Bob sat down, another bullet hit his chest. As he slumped to the ground, dazed, a bullet from Kloehr's .44-40 fatally struck Bob square in the chest.

Bob and Grat were both killed, while their brother Emmett survived. Two other gang members, Dick Broadwell and Bill Power, and four citizens also died in the gunfire.

John Kloehr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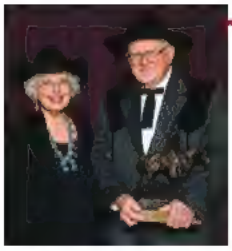
What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME



The Kraisingers (shown with their Wrangler award) bought an 1885 hardware store, housed in an 1878 building, in 1998. The store specializes in genuine antique hardware (no replicas), which can be purchased at *TheOldHardwareStore.com* or at the physical store in Halstead, Kansas.

– COURTESY JERRY BYMER PHOTOGRAPHY, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA –

MARGARET KRAISINGER, AUTHOR

Margaret Kraisinger augments her husband Gary's maps and field research with text about Texas's cattle trails. Their third book is *The Shawnee-Arbuckle Cattle Trail 1867-1870: The Predecessor of the Chisholm Trail to Abilene, Kansas*. In 2015, Margaret became the first women inducted into the Kansas Cowboy Hall of Fame in Dodge City. In 2016, the couple received the Wrangler award from Oklahoma's National Cowboy Heritage Museum and the Six Shooter Award from the Wild West History Association for their second book, *The Western Cattle Trail, 1874-1897: Its Rise, Collapse and Revival*. For the past 20 years, the Kraisingers have maintained a restored 1885 hardware store in Halstead, Kansas.

I am the descendant of Kansas homesteaders; the Old West is in my blood. I grew up on the open plains of western Kansas where one can see all four horizons. Still today, six decades later, it is God's country to me, and I understand why the Texas cattle drovers wrote about the Plains of Kansas in their recollections.

Mother taught me the love of literature. She read the classics to me before I could read. In middle school, I became obsessed with Zane Gray's novels. When I stepped on a college campus, at the age of 18, I wanted to major in literature.

My passion for literature and writing met its match when my husband, Gary, and I started researching cattle trails. We lived in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas, with a child born in each state. The Old West cattle trails were in our neighborhoods.

Because fake and fictional history is often blended with historical accounts, the challenge for the reader, researcher and writer becomes the chore of separating the weeds from the seeds.

My favorite Western films are the ones about cowboys driving Longhorns across the Plains—1948's *Red River*, 1958's *Cowboy*, 1989's *Lonesome Dove* and 1970's *Monte Walsh*.

The first book I read about cattle drives was J. Marvin Hunter's *The Trail Drivers of Texas*. This volume always stays within an arm's reach. After at least a dozen readings, I still find tidbits of information.

The only movie that depicts the transition from the use of the older Shawnee Trail to Missouri to the newer Abilene Trail (later the Chisholm Trail) in 1867 is the 1948 Western *Red River*. The conflict between the two drovers was over which trail to follow.

A trail drover's story everyone should read is E.C. Abbott's *We Pointed Them North*. "Teddy Blue," as Abbott was called, traveled the Western Trail from Texas to Montana three times. His experiences, as told to Helena H. Smith in 1938, are based on those drives.

The Western Trail was the last and largest south-to-north cattle trail system. The final herd to leave Texas for Montana, after a 50-year period of cattle driving over the various trails, was from the XIT Ranch in 1897.

My greatest discovery studying the Shawnee-Arbuckle trail years of 1867-1870 was that this cattle trail had been overlooked in history for so many years. The later Chisholm Trail in Oklahoma overshadowed and replaced the Shawnee-Arbuckle route to Abilene, Kansas.

An overlooked historic site on the Chisholm Trail is Elm Springs, in Kansas. This natural spring and waterfall is located a day's ride south out of Abilene near the Marion County line. Here cowboys could rest and shower before driving the herd to Abilene.

We should remember the trail driving days because, from this short 50 years of history, the American icon, the cowboy, was born. This image is recognized the world over.

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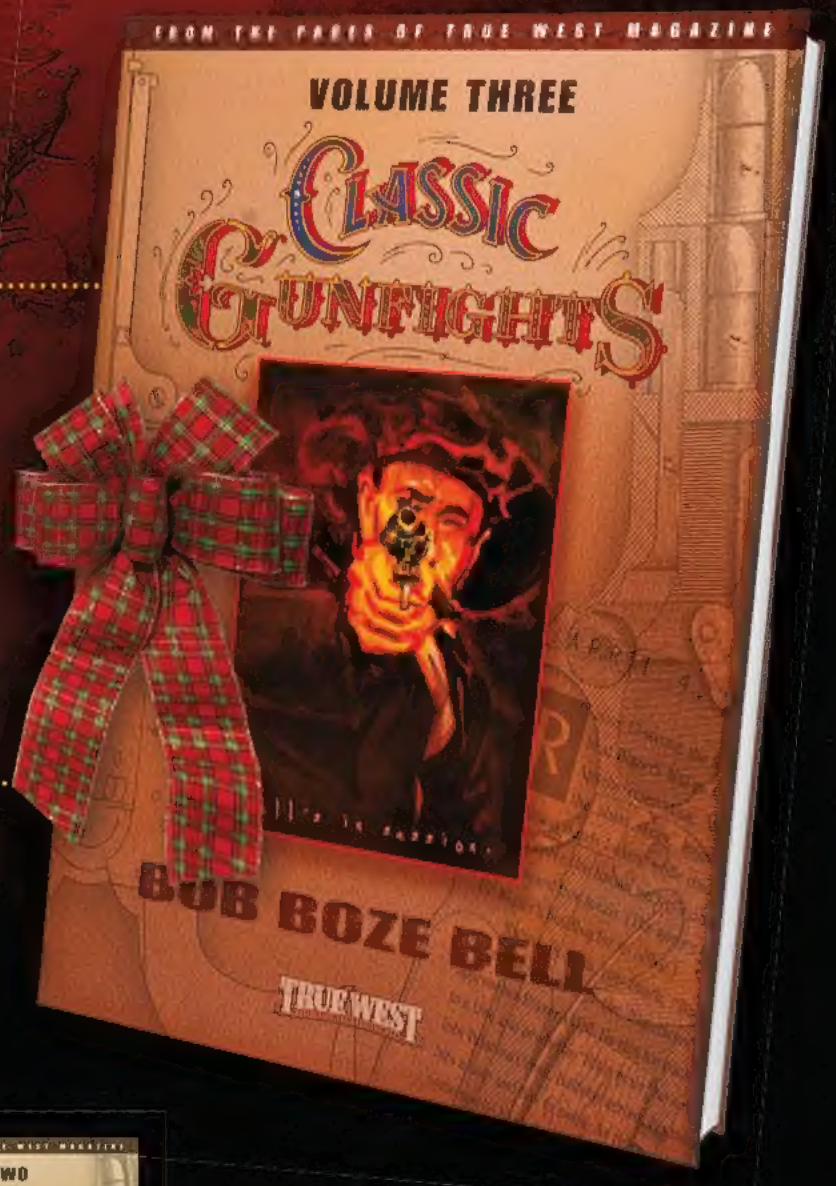

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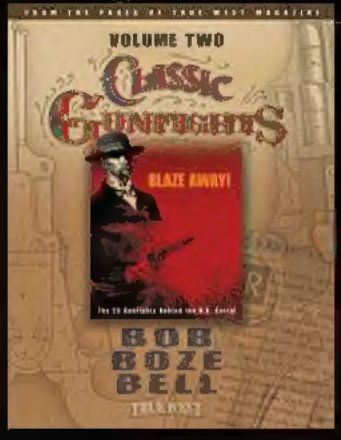

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